



Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-93-208
Friday
29 October 1993

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FBIS-SOV-93-208

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Shokhin Views Integration of CIS Monetary Systems

*LD2710214793 Moscow INTERFAX in English
2003 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Russian Vice Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin is convinced that the unification of the monetary systems of Russia and the five CIS member-states under the agreement on the ruble zone is a long-term and gradual process. It will require the integration of the member-states' legislations and a coordinated economic policy. Speaking at a briefing in Moscow today, he laid special emphasis on the fact that Russia needed firm guarantees of the fact that the countries which joined the ruble zone were determined to unite their monetary systems with the Russian one.

Shokhin said it was necessary to work out coherent mechanisms for the ruble zone's functioning. This issue is being negotiated by governmental delegations of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

The minister admitted that Russia had no clear position on the issue at the negotiations with CIS states over the recent months due to a split inside the government. By now, a firm stance has been worked out.

Shokhin told Interfax that if a temporary or national currency was introduced in the states of the ruble zone, this could speed up the unification of their monetary systems.

Speaking of his trip to Brussels to hold negotiations with the EC Commission, Shokhin pointed out that the body expressed its readiness to lift the discriminatory restrictions on trade with Russia. This was caused by the reconsideration of a provision of the agreement between Russia and the EC Commission stipulating that Russia had an economy of the state type in favor of the stipulation that it is an economy in transition.

However, Shokhin said while the EC Commission insisted on granting privileges to western European firms, it preserved certain restrictions against Russian business, particularly in the areas of aeronautics and car manufacturing. The minister said that the commission's leaders were coming to Moscow on November 11th to negotiate the issue with the Russian side. The agreement on cooperation and partnership may be signed within a month or six weeks, Shokhin said.

CBR, Government Differ on Ties With CIS

*LD2810192093 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1455 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Chairman of the Central Bank of Russia [CBR] Viktor Gerashchenko has denied accusations of embracing drastic reforms saying that the CBR and the government were largely at odds in respect to relations with other CIS states.

The disruption or exacerbation of contacts with CIS states can give rise to serious difficulties, he said. Gerashchenko denied allegations of providing excessive credits to other members of the Commonwealth. "These are provided for by certain government-to-government agreements and we do not engage in any impromptu actions," he told the Moscow-based Nezavisimaya Gazeta on Thursday.

On the massive trend of non-payment by Russian plants, Gerashchenko said the CBR had practically resolved the problem of improved account-settling. He raised concern, however, at an increase in advance payments which he says makes up about 90 percent of all account-clearing.

On the recent money reform, Gerashchenko admitted that it was spearheaded against other CIS member states. Overall, he said, the reform had created a headache for tax evaders and those who had no bank accounts.

Mashchits Discusses 'Economic Crisis' in CIS

*PM2710112193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
26 Oct 93 First Edition p 4*

[Article by Irina Demchenko: "Profound Economic Crisis Throughout CIS Area"]

[Text] Vladimir Mashchits, chairman of the Goskomsotrudnichestvo [State Committee for Cooperation with the CIS States], has stated at a meeting with journalists that in the Economic Union of former republics of the former USSR we are essentially trying to link together economies which are different in terms of system, structure, and quality. In Mashchits' opinion the states which have arisen in place of the Soviet Union have over the past two years diverged far more than it seems to us in terms of living standard and the state of their financial system, industry, and agriculture.

Armenia

An invention was made in Armenia recently: a device to make a lit candle burn for longer. It enjoys great popularity among the population.

According to Vladimir Mashchits this year Armenia spent 9 percent of the amount of fuel it used for the purpose two years ago on agricultural work. Yet it brought in the same harvest. The entire harvest, he said, was brought in using hoes.

When they began to blow up every two weeks the gas pipeline extending from Russia to Armenia across Georgian territory a special switchover algorithm was developed at the central control room making it possible to compensate promptly for the drastic change in pressure in the gas pipeline. Russian gas is now delivered to Armenia via Iran. The gas pipeline has been laid along the bed of the Caspian Sea. That has increased its journey threefold. But it is a little more reliable.

Georgia

According to Mashchits, there is enough grain left in Georgia for 10 days. I do not speak of those who are at war, the Goskomsotrudnichestvo chairman said, they are eating normally. I am speaking of the people who live there.

Answering a question about whether Russia is rendering support to the enterprises and organizations which are working for its economy, the Goskomsotrudnichestvo chairman cited an example: "In Tbilisi there is a plant which produces attack aircraft for the Russian army. Everything is in order at that plant." He refused to specify how that is being done—he said "it is our secret."

Central Asia

Turkmenia and Uzbekistan were quite unable to agree on the price for the transit of Russian gas. Then one side got at the other by raising the pressure in the pipe from the technically determined 50 atmospheres to 74 atmospheres. The pipe blew up and both republics stopped receiving gas.

Sometimes the reports on incidents from the CIS states are reminiscent of dispatches from the front, Mashchits said. Recently a gas pipeline, rail bridge, and electricity line were blown up on the same day. Yet there is just one network. One power grid for everyone, one gas pipeline for everyone, one railroad network for everyone. In recent months rail bridges have started to be blown up increasingly frequently. We are waging guerrilla warfare with each other as we would with a foreign aggressor.

This year Turkmenia's oil export quota was 11.5 billion cubic meters of Russian gas. We have not yet concluded a contract for next year, Mashchits said, but if we allocate no export quota at all the Turkmen economy will come to an end.

One journalist asked him: Will you subsidize other states at Russia's expense for a long time to come? We are not living so well ourselves that we can release our oil and gas at preferential prices to our neighbors for re-export. Why do you support the regimes there with your charity?

"We do not support the regimes there, we support Russia," the Goskomsotrudnichestvo chairman said. "We do not want a civil war along all Russia's borders. Georgia, Armenia, and Tajikistan are enough for us. They are already too much."

Ukraine and Belarus

In Belarus there are two gigantic oil refineries which were constructed with a view to meeting all the republic's requirements—they are in Mozyr and Novopolotsk. Today these enterprises are running at a loss. Their capacities are only half loaded and they "do not know how" to work at half strength: The observance of technological procedures requires that electricity and other resources be expended in full. These enterprises have become bankrupt not because they are producing output

which is not required or because their leaders are making bad decisions or the demand for their output has declined but simply because Russia has halved the delivery of oil to Belarus.

In previous years Ukraine received 52 million tonnes of oil from Russia—now it is 29 million. Belarus used to receive 30-35 million tonnes, now it is about 15 million.

In two months, as of 1 January 1994, Russia plans to switch to the delivery of energy carriers to neighboring states at world prices. Let me remind you that absolutely all the former republics of the USSR have inherited energy- and resources-intensive manufacturing facilities.

If Ukraine receives energy resources at world prices, Ukrainian sugar will cost three times more than the world price. If Belarus and Kazakhstan start to buy fuel and electricity at world prices their meat and grain will cost many times more than world prices. That is an absolutely desperate situation: The world price for meat is regulated not by Belarus but by Argentina and Australia. The world price for grain is determined not by Kazakhstan and Ukraine but by Canada and the United States. And Russia will start to buy the food it needs from whoever sells it cheaper and not from whoever is closer to it historically and geographically.

That applies not only to agricultural output. The absolute majority of the industries of the states which arose on the ruins of the former Soviet Union are becoming totally uncompetitive when Russia switches to selling at world prices. Someone seriously misled Kravchuk and Fokin by assuring them a year ago that Ukraine would gain by switching to world prices. It is losing.

Degree of Our Economies' Interdependence

The Goskomsotrudnichestvo chairman suggested a new way of measuring the degree of integration of the economies of the states of the former USSR: on the basis of how represented their governments are in Moscow. The visit of a head of government of a truly independent state takes six months to prepare at the Foreign Ministry, Mashchits said. Last Monday I had three premiers and a president at a reception, on Tuesday two premiers and two premiers, and I do not even count the vice premiers. Some deputy heads of government and ministers of the states of the former USSR live in Moscow for weeks and months in their missions, spending every day resolving their problems here.

The total debts to the Russian fuel and energy complex owed by all states of the former USSR are now over 1.3 trillion rubles [R]. For comparison, the total debts of enterprises, organizations, and states of the CIS to Russia is about R3 trillion. Russian enterprises and organizations owe their CIS partners R1-1.5 trillion. In citing these figures Mashchits at the same time noted that they are not completely trustworthy and can serve only as a guideline: A mass of payments bypasses the banking network and are made in cash. They simply

bring a briefcase containing money, take the goods, and bring a new briefcase with money.

It is a pity that the leaders of the states which tried, by means of centralized regulation, to ease the shock of reform for their populations did not heed Mashchits' warnings in late 1991. He said: If Russia begins reform according to the Gaydar team's scenario the neighboring countries would do better to join it voluntarily. A shock in Russia is too big an explosion for it to be absorbed in economies so very dependent on it, even the economies of large states like Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine. The upheavals which they are now experiencing are payment for the delayed explosion.

Mashchits was asked whether the Economic Union would finally be concluded. "It probably will," he said. "In principle all states want this union, hoping for an easing of customs duty and the consolidation of economic relations. But over two years the break in our economies has become so huge that we must now think anew about the principles on which they can be united."

Impact of 'Sovereignization' on Military Viewed

PM2910094593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 1

[Lieutenant Colonel Ivan Ivanyuk report: "The More Sovereign the Regions Become, the Worse Servicemen's Lives There Are"]

[Text] Many parties' and movements' election programs assign a great place to regional policy. Some see this as their main trump card, others at least show understanding that they cannot avoid resolving a double task: On the one hand, that of boosting the autonomy of components of the Federation and, on the other, preserving Russia's integrity.

Nor can people in an army which, while seeming to be outside politics, frequently found itself caught between the millstones of the local and central authorities as they ground against one another even in the time of the USSR, impartially watch the processes of sovereignization under way in the country. Moreover, you do not have to look far for examples. The breakup of the Union and the formation of the independent states caused the Armed Forces a host of problems, and no sooner is one resolved than a dozen more emerge in its place. And in one way or another they all affect the social position of the military and the members of their families.

"The Soviet branch of the Russian Central Bank in Priozersk is still paying our unit's servicemen with 1961-92 bank notes," Lieutenant Colonels Maksimushkin and Vorobyev, Major Krylovich, and other officers (35 signatures in all) wrote to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. "The bank has not explained why this is happening. However, in view of the exchange rate on Kazakhstani territory, the purchasing power of these bank notes has fallen by a factor of 1.5-2. This is

extremely disadvantageous if you consider that Kazakhstani Defense Ministry Voyentorg [military trade] enterprises are not providing the garrison with the requisite quantity and range of commodities and essentials—a considerable proportion of them are having to be bought on the market and via commercial structures. Servicemen whose families are on Russian territory cannot provide them with material assistance because it is impossible to exchange the old bank notes for new ones...."

These are certainly by no means all the problems that a specific troop unit has been caused by the dissociation of Russia and Kazakhstan, which were linked by thousands of bonds long before the creation and then breakup of the "indissoluble Union." How many agreements have been signed anew between the independent states in order to put economic, financial, military, and other ties on a civilized footing, and still there are problems. They remain because, as the Russian saying aptly points out, destruction does not mean construction. Something that takes a matter of days to destroy sometimes takes years to restore.

What problems can there be in paying Russian servicemen on Kazakhstani territory Russian money—after all, it was only 7 September that the heads of the independent states signed an agreement to create a unified ruble zone, an agreement which, incidentally, deliberately limits the sovereignty of these states. But so far, regrettably, it is only an abstract idea, and not only insofar as it is extremely hard to put into practice and may have unpredictable economic consequences, but also for an extremely prosaic reason: There is still no concrete agreement between Russia and Kazakhstan, talks are only just being held, and there is every indication that this process will be a long one. Until an agreement is signed, there can only be one-shot, individual decisions.

The problem of providing trade services for Russian servicemen on Kazakh territory is at an equally difficult stage. Only Baykonur still receives supplies from Moscow; the other garrisons have been placed "under the wing" of the local voyentorg, including, comparatively recently, Priozersk. And there are more than enough organizational problems here.

We have deliberately taken a by no means extraordinary situation by way of illustration. There are far more complex problems: Those that Russian border guards, for instance, tackle as they guard the borders—borders that are not even Russian, moreover. But are they really to blame for the fact that today only 14 percent of Russia's borders are regulated by international treaties? We are deliberately avoiding those things that have been repeatedly written about—the smoldering so-called "hot spots," where the Russian soldier is one guarantor of a relatively stable situation, or the "Gordian knot" around the Black Sea Fleet, the position of military pensioners in the Baltic.... These people, who by the will of fate have found themselves outside Russia and experienced all the

delights of sovereignization, often do not merely have a worse life than they did at some previous time, but have an unbearably bad life—an intolerably awful life.

Fortunately, the destructive processes have not gone so far in Russia's "domains." Republics, oblasts, and krais—and not even all of them—are still only declaring that the "center is violating" their rights and proclaiming their desire for self-determination. Although, however, from time to time they do take "retaliatory" steps against the federal authorities. For instance, they fail to pay money into the federal budget. And that directly affects the Armed Forces, funded as they are by the central government. Where then is the army to get the money, say, to pay for local food supplies, property, or to buy apartments for homeless officers? It is thus inevitable that people's rights will be violated and the level of the social guarantees that the state should provide for those people, whose task is to defend the integrity of their state among other things, reduced.

At a time when the legal space within the country is only just developing, in some areas the local authorities have formulated the convenient tactic of ignoring federal laws and "old" normative acts such as, for instance, the USSR Council of Ministers decree on repaying the army's apartment debts, although the demands of these documents have been enshrined in a Russian presidential edict. The draft into the Russian Armed Forces is proceeding with difficulty. There are forces in Tatarstan, for instance—which heads the list of republics that have asserted their own sovereignty—that are urging young people outright to ignore service in the "foreign" army. There are plenty of problems involved in providing amenities for the troops being brought home from abroad. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA has repeatedly returned to the problems encountered by the airborne troops on arriving at their new base in Ulyanovsk. One argument against their being stationed in the city that does not stand up to criticism—people say that this will reduce the local population's standard of living.

There seems to be little point in talking about the naivete of a desire to create an area of prosperity in an individual region. You can of course try to do that, but practice shows that this can only happen at the expense of certain social groups. And we have seen that, as the main "emissaries" of the federal government, the military were and will be top of the list here.

Nonetheless, the slogan "sovereignization at any price" already appears to be disappearing from the agenda, or should do so in the near future. Many of the former Union republics have experienced autonomy and felt the destructive effect of centrifugal forces in politics. It is logical that a pragmatic approach should begin to prevail in relations between them and that there should be renewed attempts to create an economic union. I would like to believe that with every day that passes there will be fewer and fewer people who are willing to heed the smooth-tongued disciples of unthinking sovereignization.

Rakhmanov Endorses Georgia's Membership in CIS

*LD2810210193 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1715 GMT 28 Nov 93*

[Text] Tajik Parliament Chairman Imamali Rakhmanov signed on his republic's behalf in Dushanbe on Thursday [28 October] an act, confirming Georgia's membership in the CIS.

As the Foreign Ministry Spokesman Zafar Saidov has told Interfax, Rakhmanov put his signature to the act after a meeting with a working group of the CIS Executive Secretariat that arrived from Tashkent.

The group then left for Bishkek on a similar mission. It is to collect the signatures of all CIS leaders by November 1. Topping the list of signatories is President Levon Ter-Petrosyan of Armenia.

Azerbaijan Joins Mir Television, Radio Company

*OW2710145193 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1945 GMT
19 Oct 93*

[Report by unidentified correspondent; from the "Utro" program]

[Text] A new name, that of the Azerbaijan Republic, was added to the list of the eight independent states of the commonwealth, comprising Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, who founded the Mir Inter-State Television and Radio Company a year ago. Ilzhan Mukhtarov, the authorized representative of the Azerbaijan Government, signed the initial documents and handed them over to Galilbek Shalakhmetov, chairman of the Mir Inter-State Television and Radio Company.

[Shalakhmetov] Well, we will be working together.

[Mukhtarov] I hope there will be more listeners now that Azerbaijan has joined the Mir Inter-state Television and Radio Company.

[Shalakhmetov] Thank you. I hope so.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 28 Oct

*LD2810074293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0605 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[“Press Review”—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 28 ITAR-TASS—Newspapers highlight today President Yeltsin's decrees "on the reform of local government in the Russian Federation" and "on the regulation of land relations and the development of the agrarian reform in Russia."

"Soviet representative power has been totally liquidated, but no one knows what benefits it has brought to the country so far," NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes.

commenting on the presidential decree on local councils. The newspaper frontpages an article, which says that "by all appearances, the decree on the reform of local government has completed the liquidation of the specific soviet system of power, which was built according to the principle of subordination of a lower soviet to the upper one, up to the top authority—the Supreme Soviet, which, in its turn, was accountable to the Congress of People's Deputies."

In the opinion of the newspaper, before the elections to the Federal Assembly "the deputy prime ministers joined the electoral blocs hostile to each other and seem to be paying too little attention to the economy. Previously it was the parliament that did not let them tackle the economic problems properly." According to the newspaper, one of the priority tasks facing President Yeltsin is to bring back to their senses the ministers, who have been too carried away by prospects of becoming members of parliament. "The president will have to decide whether to further allow members of his team to make unfriendly statements, directed at other members of the same team, or to remind them of the unity, which was characteristic of them all early in October, and to work for it," the newspaper points out.

Commenting on another decree of President Yeltsin, on land, TRUD writes that, under that document, the state guarantees the inviolability and protection of the private property of land, as well as the protection of the rights of landowners, when they conclude deals connected with the land. Individuals and legal entities possessing a plot of land have the right to sell and bequeath it, to give it as a gift, to mortgage, lease and exchange it, the newspaper writes.

TRUD publishes an interview with Boris Nemtsov, governor of the Nizhniy Novgorod region, central Russia, in which he mentioned the land problem and ways of the development of the agricultural sector of the economy. "I respect the nation and believe that our people are quite capable of feeding themselves. The task of the authorities is to create conditions necessary for it," Nemtsov said. In his opinion, the pace of the reform in the countryside depends on local authorities. Now the reform is being hampered by mistakes in the agrarian policy (promises and the deception of peasants on the part of the central authorities), an extreme shortage of time and the absence of a well-thought-over programme of transformations.

Viktor Gerashchenko, head of the Central Bank of Russia, has given an interview to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, published today, in which he criticises the Russian Government. In his opinion, "the government has no economic policy whatsoever." Responding to the question on whether or not there are differences between him and some members of the Cabinet of Ministers, Gerashchenko said that there are some differences on the problem of privatization, relations with other CIS

member states and some other problems. "The government is working now as an emergency team, as a fire brigade," he added.

Speaking about the credit and monetary policy, Gerashchenko said that "guidelines" were chosen in it which would make it possible to reduce inflation to 10 per cent a month.

TRUD carries an article today dealing with the problem of the deployment of Russian troops in Georgia. They have not yet started to protect the vital transport arteries on its territory. The agreement on sending national army units to protect the Poti-Kutaisi-Tbilisi-Baku railway has not been put into effect. Major General Vasilii Belchenko, second commander of the Russian Army group in the Transcaucasian region, comments in his article on that problem and on some other problems, connected with the stay of Russian troops in Georgia. "We have fulfilled the task of drawing up a plan of the protection of railways. Now we shall wait for the order, after which we shall be able to start implementing it," he said.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA publishes today a report about the participation of the troops in the harvesting campaign. As is known, many army units were set to help with autumn harvesting, although there are some people in Russia who continue to maintain that the Armed Forces are a "burden" for the Russian economy. According to the newspaper, the military are not only helping with the harvesting of this year's crop. There are 95 state farms, sponsored by the army, where the crop this year was much better than in 1992.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carries a fragment from the statement of President Yeltsin's Press Secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov about the turning over to the council of ministers of the equipment, which previously belonged to the parliamentary TV and radio broadcasting system. Kostikov said the president was concerned over the new trend towards securing a monopoly over the mass media. He is afraid that the decision to "capture" "RTV-parliament" may damage the democratic image of Russia and the prestige of the government.

29 Oct Press Review

LD2910075693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0625 GMT 29 Oct 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 29 ITAR-TASS—Moscow newspapers publish today numerous commentaries on the president's decree "on the regulation of land relations and the development of the agrarian reform in Russia." NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA describes it as a history-making, but only the first step in the regulation of land relations in Russia. The newspaper stresses that from now on "the state guarantees the inviolability and protection of the private property of land, as well as the

protection of the rights of landowners, when they conclude land deals". In its opinion, the decree is more of a political event, and all of its economic and political consequences will be clearly seen only in the future.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA points to another important aspect of the "land decree", which cancels mandatory deliveries and other forms of the forcible procurement of farm produce by the state. In other words, the requisitioning of agricultural products is now illegal, the newspaper stresses.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA is trying to give Russian electors some guidelines, helping them find a way out from the labyrinth of electoral promises of various political parties and blocs, which are now at the start of the electoral campaign. The newspaper carries an article by Vladimir Yermolin, entitled "In the Labyrinth of Electoral Programmes", which analyses programmes of the main political forces taking part in the electoral race. In his opinion, the political forces, posed for the electoral struggle, are grouped in the following way: Russia's Choice, the Russian Movement of Democratic Reforms and the Party of Russian Unity and Accord are rallying the democratic forces. The centre is made up of the Civic Union, trade union and youth movements and the Democratic Party of Russia. The right wing includes communists, national-patriots and supporters of the socialist choice.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carries another article about the scandal over "Saddam Husayn's dollars" for

the Russian opposition. It carries an article by Aleksandr Shumilin entitled "Millions for Khasbulatov: Myth or Fact?" he quotes the London-based newspaper AL-ZAYAT, which published a report recently about the granting by the Saddam Husayn regime of seven million dollars to the pro-communists putschists, entrenched in the "White House". According to KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, during his past several months in office the former speaker of the Russian parliament was relying on Arab states, trying to ensure "international support" for his anti-Yeltsin policy. In the opinion of Shumilin, the AL-HAYAH information is trustworthy.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA publishes an article by Mikhail Nikolayev, president of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), which deals with the life and future of small nations inhabiting the Arctic region. He writes about the first conference of the international non-governmental organisation "northern forum". It analysed all aspects of the problems, connected with the life of man in the north. According to Nikolayev, humanity has come to realise the integrity of the north as a geographical, geological, cultural and economic entity. The arctic regions of the north depend on their natural conditions and resources more than any other part of the world. The bond between man and the natural environment is especially close and delicate there, and its disruption may have irreversible consequences. This is why, the careful and rational use of the natural resources of the north—manpower resources, flora and fauna—is the indispensable condition for ensuring economic stability in the region.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Visits Moscow

Kozyrev Favors Military Cooperation

LD2810145893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Russia is in favor of developing military cooperation with Vietnam. This was stated in reply to an Interfax correspondent by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who met today with Vietnam's Foreign Minister Ngyuen Manh Cam in Moscow. Andrey Kozyrev said that Russia is interested in maintaining its military facilities in Cam Ranh on the basis of a mutual accord.

The ministers signed two agreements—on scientific and cultural cooperation and mutual trips by citizens. A protocol on consultations between the foreign policy departments of the two countries was also signed.

Cam Ranh Base Discussed

LD2810204493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1557 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Vosboynikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaly Trubetskoy and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama"]

[Text] In an interview with Interfax after his talks with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam in Moscow on Thursday [28 October], Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev spoke in favor of closer military cooperation with Vietnam.

In his words, Russia is interested in retaining its military facilities in Cam Ranh "on the basis of bilateral accords." "In the current situation, it is particularly important that neither Asian countries nor remote states object to military ties between Moscow and Hanoi, nor do they regard them as a threat to themselves. I think these contacts should be encouraged," Kozyrev said.

For his part, Nguyen Manh Cam reported that negotiations about Russia's future presence in Cam Ranh were still under way. "We seek a decision that will correspond to present day reality," he remarked.

The ministers signed two agreements, one on scientific and cultural cooperation, and the other on reciprocal travel of citizens. A protocol on consultations between the two ministries was also signed.

According to Kozyrev, the visit to Moscow by the Vietnamese minister testifies to the fact that Russia has interests both in the West and the East. Acquiring new friends, Russia never forgets about the old ones, he said. We have long-standing ties with the Vietnamese people, owing to common mistakes and thanks to common achievements.

Kozyrev believes that the fact that Russia is advancing towards free-market relations, opens new advantages for the political cooperation between the two countries. He

said that the Vietnamese prime minister will visit Moscow no later than in the first half of next year.

Vietnamese Premier To Visit

LD2810203893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1252 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Taranov]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 28 Oct—"We never forget old friends. The signing of a number of important Russian-Vietnamese documents indicates that Russia looks both east and west," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said today after his talks with Nguyen Manh Cam, foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. [passage omitted]

Andrey Kozyrev also said that during the talks they reached an understanding on a visit to Russia by the Vietnamese prime minister, which is to take place in the first half of 1994. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Meets Chernomyrdin

LD2910130893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 29 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin met today with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, who is making his first official visit to Moscow. During the course of their conversation, prospects for the development of economic and trade cooperation between the two countries were discussed. Noting the undoubted success of the development of Vietnam's economy in recent years, Viktor Chernomyrdin stressed that cooperation will be extended in various areas. In particular, the construction of power-engineering facilities in Vietnam is being planned.

For many years the Soviet Union was Vietnam's main foreign economic partner, but today the volume of trade turnover is very low. However, there are prospects for improvement. One obstacle has been Vietnam's 10 billion ruble debt to Russia; this problem may be solved by possible deliveries of agricultural produce from Vietnam. Both sides noted that mutual cooperation can be elevated to a higher level.

Mikhaylov Holds News Conference on Waste Dumping

PM2810110593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 7

[Unattributed report: "Russia Is Not the Only One To Dump Radioactive Waste in the Sea"]

[Text] It is not only Russia, but also other countries, including Japan, which are dumping radioactive waste in the sea, since "so far scientists have not managed to

create a waste-free nuclear power industry." That is how Viktor Mikhaylov, Russian Federation atomic energy minister, commented on Russia's recent dumping of liquid radioactive waste in the Sea of Japan at a news conference in Tokyo. Answering a question from an ITAR-TASS correspondent, he noted that the low-level waste dumped by Russia this time are practically identical in their composition to the waste being dumped in the sea from Japanese nuclear electric power stations.

"On the basis of all international criteria, Japanese nuclear power stations are the best in the world. The level of toxicity in their waste is significantly lower than the permitted limit established by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]," Viktor Mikhaylov said. "However, nuclear waste is inevitably created in the operation of any nuclear power station today."

Having stressed that the radioactive waste dumped by Russia in the Sea of Japan does not pose any threat to Japan and cannot have any negative effect on the environment, the minister noted that an agreement had been reached with the Japanese side on conducting joint Russian-Japanese research in the dumping area. "We want to give Japanese scientists the opportunity to see for themselves that the dumping of low-level materials has not caused any damage to the environment," Viktor Mikhaylov said. In the future we plan to conduct joint study of "all areas in the Sea of Japan where radioactive waste is buried," he noted.

The Russian minister expressed regret in connection with the fact that the Japanese Government was not informed of Russia's imminent dumping of radioactive waste by the international organizations which were informed of this in advance by Moscow in accordance with IAEA rules. He also expressed the opinion that "the problem of Russia's dumping of low-level waste in the sea has been very much politicized by the Japanese press."

According to the minister, Russia will not dump liquid toxic substances in the Sea of Japan in the future.

Deputy Naval Commander Says Dumping To Continue

*LD2910093093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0730 GMT 29 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Grachev]

[Text] Vladivostok October 29 TASS—"The Pacific Fleet will continue to dump low-radioactive liquid waste in the Sea of Japan until the Russian Government decides otherwise," Admiral Igor Kasatonov, first deputy commander-in-chief of the Russian Navy, said at a press conference here on Friday [29 October].

He stressed that "the decision to dump such waste has been legalised by corresponding government documents, the IAEA has been informed of them, and our Japanese neighbours also knew perfectly well about them."

"Unfortunately, no one is starting an uproar when, say, the United States or Japan are doing the same thing, while the action, taken by the Russian Navy, triggered such a vigorous reaction all over the world, such a negative response that it would be logical to ask: What is the purpose of this uproar and who needs it?", he asked.

Kasatonov is now in Vladivostok on a planned inspection visit. He is checking the level of military discipline and of the prevention of accidents at the Pacific Fleet.

He told journalists that there was no other purpose of his visit, but since the dumping of radioactive waste by the fleet in the Sea of Japan produced such an emphatic response, he just could not but mention that problem.

According to Kasatonov, "Russia has done all it could for the operation not to come as a surprise for the world public. It took place 60 miles away from our coast and 200 miles away from the Japanese coast. The dumped liquid waste had a low radioactivity level which was recognised both by Russian and Japanese scientists. And, finally, the depth of the Sea of Japan is 3,000 to 3,500 metres, which makes it possible to safely dump radioactive waste without risking the health of the people living on the coast of that sea," Kasatonov said.

Kasatonov Comments Further

*LD2910140993 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1213 GMT 29 Oct 93*

[Text] Admiral Igor Kasatonov, First Deputy Commander of the Russian Navy, said that the Pacific Fleet "will never be guilty of an ecological disaster in the Far East."

He said at a news conference in Vladivostok Friday [29 October] that he had arrived in the Far East at the head of a commission looking into strengthening discipline and to help in resolving social issues, in particular preparing the fleet for the winter, more than to deal with the recent dumping of nuclear wastes into the Sea of Japan.

Following the news conference, he gave INTERFAX an exclusive interview in which he rejected the idea that the dumping was an attempt, staged by the opposition in the wake of Yeltsin's visit to Tokyo, to counter the president's policy of improving relations with Japan. That one event followed closely behind the other was "pure coincidence." In his words, the utilization of radioactive wastes "was scheduled in advance, cleared with the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency], and quite safe."

Kasatonov thinks that the attention given to this event by Russian and foreign media is "unjustified." So would be, in his view, placing such operations under control of outside parties, in particular Japan. "The Russian navy command does not show this kind of interest in such activities undertaken by Japan or the U.S.," the admiral said.

He believes that their neighboring country is pressing this issue because it faces difficulties of its own. He is confident that the wasting and pillage of Russian natural resources in the Sea of Okhotsk is a more important ecological issue.

Kasatonov welcomed the Japanese proposal that the two countries should cooperate in improving the tools and technology of dumping radioactive wastes, "but such steps are up to the government." He called for expanding all kinds of contacts with Japan, in particular exchange of naval visits.

In the words of Kasatonov, "the region's population has nothing to worry about because of the thirty years of experience in handling nuclear fuel for submarines, the use of the most advanced technologies, and highly skilled personnel."

Kunadze Claims Japan Used Waste as 'Political Game'

LD2910134093 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1213 GMT 29 Oct 93

[Text] The Japanese tried to use the dumping of liquid radioactive wastes by Russia in the Sea of Japan in early October as a political game, Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze in charge of relations with Japan told INTERFAX.

He said that after the dumping, the Japanese took samples of water in that area for testing "and I did not hear anything about the water being contaminated."

In Kunadze's view, this time "the two sides succeeded in using all this to improve our relations rather than harm them. This is very important and reflects the new quality of Russian-Japanese relations."

The deputy minister believes that the recent Moscow meeting of Russian and Japanese experts on the dumping of liquid nuclear wastes has yielded positive results. "The issue is being resolved to the satisfaction of both sides. What is important is that, unlike in the past, our Japanese partners did not only protest but began to think about what to do next," he said.

Utilization of liquid nuclear wastes "is not only our problem. Numerous reports are coming in that the British and the French and the Japanese attend to it. This is a common problem which needs a solution," Kunadze said.

Russian, Japanese Specialists Meet on Waste Dumping

LD2810224893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
2132 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Veronika Romanenkova]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—An enterprise to process liquid radioactive waste and convert it into a solid state should be built on Russian funds. This attitude was expressed at a Russo-Japanese two-day meeting of specialists to discuss the aftermath of the dumping of liquid radioactive waste in the Sea of Japan in mid-October by the Russian Navy.

The two countries' further cooperation in the nuclear power industry will proceed precisely from this assumption, Akio Kawato, head of the information department of the Japanese Embassy in Russia, told a briefing on Thursday [28 October].

Nevertheless, Russia has the right to manage in its own way the 100 million U.S. dollars which Japan gives to it freely for the destruction of nuclear weapons, Mr. Kawato said.

It was already reported that after dumping radioactive waste on October 16 Russia had planned to discharge waste into the water for the second time. Tankers were overfilled with waste and were in a near-breakdown condition.

However, Russia, in response to protests from foreign governments, primarily those of Japan and United States, gave up the second dumping. Reporting this decision, Viktor Danilov-Danilyan, Russian minister of environmental protection, said the Russian Federation firmly counts on foreign assistance in building a nuclear waste processing factory.

At the experts' meeting, which ended on Thursday, Russia specified data on the radioactivity of waste discharged into the Sea of Japan. According to more accurate estimates, its radioactivity was 0.38 curie, not 1.8 curie as was stated previously. [Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian at 1840 GMT on 28 October, in a similar report, states the earlier estimate of radioactivity was 1.08 curie]

Mr. Kawato confirmed that Japanese specialists monitoring the dumping area did not record a dangerous water contamination level. At the same time a Japanese nuclear power station at Kashiwazaki in the Sea of Japan annually discharges heavy water into the sea with a general radioactive background of 10.5 curie.

This meeting of experts was held in preparation for next bilateral meeting (November 11-12) when an exact date for a Russo-Japanese study of the Sea of Japan will be determined.

World 'Shocked' by Radioactive Waste Dumping

PM2810111193 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1450 GMT 24 Oct 93

[Report by Aleksey Ivashev; from the "Panorama" program]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Ivashev] In connection with the latest events, Russia and its president are in an

awkward position. But what is even more startling is that it was the Russian Federation Ministry of Ecology which authorized the military to dump radioactive waste. The whole world is shocked at the sight of lethal fluids being discharged with complete unconcern, and the minister of ecology defending such actions. He claims to be puzzled by the world community's reaction. We have dumped, and will continue dumping. Russia has no alternative. Discharges of this kind do not pose any danger.

The ease with which Russia is infringing international agreements is also surprising. If something is banned, and you don't like it, you can go ahead nonetheless. The Soviet Union did not sign the London Convention under which a universal moratorium on dumping radioactive waste is in operation. However, in November 1992 Russia, the legal successor of the Soviet Union, stated officially that it will abide by all the rules and regulations of the London Convention, including the moratorium.

The Soviet Union spent vast sums of money on building a powerful nuclear fleet. However, no thought was given to recycling spent fuel and other radioactive waste. Russia does not have a long-term burial site. Meanwhile the Russian Navy's shore-based radioactive waste storage facilities are full to capacity. The next session of the London Convention is scheduled to take place in November this year. A number of countries will put forward an initiative for a total and lasting ban on radioactive dumping at sea at this session. This is why the Russian Navy wanted to quietly clear out its shore-based storage facilities before then. This did not work out. A Greenpeace ship intends to patrol the Sea of Japan until Russia gives up its plans to dump radioactive waste there.

DPRK's Offer of Limited Nuclear Inspections Examined

*SK2910070393 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean
1000 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Commentary by station commentator Aleksey Kondratyev; from the "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] The DPRK has said that it is willing to accept limited [pubunjogin] nuclear inspection of its nuclear facilities. Our station commentator Aleksey Kondratyev writes:

The fact that Pyongyang has expressed its view on its nuclear facilities is something that should be welcomed. However, international inspectors note particularities in the Korean [choson] side's position.

Even while saying that it would accept nuclear inspections, the Korean leadership has set various conditions. At one point, they said that they would only accept inspections when the U.S. forces withdrew from the ROK. They then demanded that simultaneous inspections of U.S. military facilities in the ROK be conducted.

Following this, they demanded that the annual ROK-U.S. Team Spirit joint military exercises be discontinued. They are now saying that they will accept limited nuclear inspections only when the United States diplomatically recognizes the DPRK.

While it is inopportune to enforce certain measures on the North's leadership, which is defending its national interests, these conditions set by the North will only delay international inspections of Korean nuclear facilities.

Washington officials say that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and Pyongyang cannot be dealt with before the DPRK accepts nuclear inspections. Thus, the situation is in a stalemate which will take some time to break.

U.S. authorities and Korean authorities have held unofficial talks on many occasions to deal with bilateral relations. The nuclear inspection issue has again been raised when efforts were made to hold talks on an official level.

The issue of sanctions against Korea will come up when Seoul and Washington present the Korean nuclear issue to the UN Security Council for deliberation.

As some diplomatic sources say, Pyongyang may be trying to avoid such sanctions by advancing a new proposal on limited inspections.

Cultural, Scientific Accord Signed With South Korea

*LD2810182593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1608 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Suprun]

[Text] Moscow October 28 ITAR-TASS—A programme of cultural and scientific cooperation between the governments of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Korea for 1993-1995 was signed in Moscow today.

The agreement, which opens up promising prospects for bilateral interaction, was signed by the Russian Foreign Ministry's cultural department Konstantin Mozel and General Director of the Cultural Cooperation Department of the South Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs Yi Won-yong.

"Since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1991, our relations have developed dynamically and constructively in virtually all fields. One proof of this is the working out of this programme, which will facilitate a considerable expansion of bilateral exchanges of specialists in a variety of sciences, intellectuals and representatives of youth organisations," the Korean diplomat said.

"In the final account, this program's implementation will help us reach the main objective - mutual understanding between the two nations which have been separated for decades by a wall of alienation", Yi Wonyong said.

The programme provides, among other things, for expanded cooperation not only in the field of science and culture but also in the spheres of educations, information exchange, sport and tourism.

British Prime Minister To Visit in Early 1994

LD2810174693 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1557 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Vosboynikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy, and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] British Prime Minister John Major will most likely be visiting Russia shortly after the New Year, according to the Russian foreign minister's political adviser Galina Sidorova.

Talking to Russian reporters who accompanied Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev on his visits to Britain and Ireland, she described his contacts in London as "a dialogue between partners and friends." Kozyrev met Prime Minister John Major, Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and Chancellor of the Exchequer Kenneth Clarke.

At Kozyrev's talks with Clarke, special attention was paid to Russia's proposal for holding a meeting of the foreign and finance ministers of the G7 nations and Russia in Moscow this year. Sidorova said Moscow did not link such a meeting to the forthcoming parliamentary election. "We need to find out where we stand as regards G7's assistance to Russia. We believe such meetings should become a routine," she said.

Kozyrev's London hosts were interested in the situation in the "hot spots" on the territory of the former Soviet Union, such as Tajikistan, Nagorno-Karabakh and Abkhazia, Sidorova said, adding that London appreciated Russia's efforts to persuade the Tajik leadership to start a dialogue with the opposition and that it "shares Moscow's apprehensions of the negative developments in Afghanistan, which are affecting the situation in Tajikistan."

Sidorova said the Sochi agreements on settling the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict might not have been ruined if the United Nations had promptly sent its observers and peace-keeping forces to the region. She expressed the hope that a similar agreement on Nagorno-Karabakh, if it were ultimately reached, would not suffer the same fate. "A mechanism must be worked out for carrying out such agreements involving the participation not only of Russia but also of the United Nations, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international organizations," she said.

As for international problems discussed in London, the main attention was paid to the situation in the former Yugoslavia. "Russia and Great Britain agree that the war in Bosnia must not be allowed to be 'forgotten' and that the settlement process in the former Yugoslavia must be brought to the end," she said. She expressed the hope that the second London conference tentatively scheduled for the beginning of next year would help attain that aim.

Kozyrev and British politicians also discussed the possibility of increasing the number of permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. "The negotiations have once again made it clear that both Russia and Great Britain believe there should be no haste in reforming the U.N. Security Council," Sidorova said.

Partnership Agreement With EC Expected Soon

LD2810210993 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1810 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] In their telephone conversation Russian Vice Premier Alexander Shokhin and Deputy Chairman of the European Community Commission Leon Britten have settled some of the major differences over a Russo-ECC partnership and cooperation agreement which had been in the negotiation stage for two years.

Russian government experts say that the two sides have agreed on the conditions under which western banks can open and operate in Russia. The ECC has agreed to Russia maintaining numerous restrictions such as the number of branches Western banks can open in Russia and a ban on brokerage transactions with shares of joint stock societies and with privatization vouchers for five years after the signing of the agreement.

Shokhin is reported to have shown, late on Wednesday, the draft agreement to representatives of leading Russian banks who endorsed it.

As another result of the Shokhin-Britten talks, the ECC will advise the Community Council to approve on October 8th a new mandate for talks with Russia, with the goal of carrying out the talks as soon as possible.

Churkin on NATO's 'Partnership for Peace' Proposal

PM2810112593 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 7

[Yelena Ovcharenko report incorporating interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin; place and date not given: "Who Said We Have To Join NATO?"]

[Text] "A partnership for peace"—this is how the proposal discussed by the United States and its NATO allies a few days ago is described. Its thrust boils down to the prospect of developing the "Atlanticist" bloc. The idea is that any CSCE member countries should have the chance to conclude a partnership agreement with NATO under which each "hopeful" country would prepare an

implementation schedule or action program, stipulating therein the extent of its participation.

Partnership would be take the form of carrying out joint maneuvers with NATO, participation by interested countries' Armed Forces in search and rescue operations and peacekeeping missions, and collaboration with NATO in managing crisis situations.

According to the U.S. Secretary of Defense Les Aspin, the involvement of "partners" in the bloc's activity will pave the way for expanding its potential.

Does the proposal envisage the possibility of accepting all interested parties into NATO? Some countries, having become "NATO partners," will consider this sufficient. "I suggest that it is best to declare to anyone interested in full NATO membership that partnership is a necessary step toward full membership," Les Aspin said.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin answers KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA's questions.

[Ovcharenko] How promising does the proposed "partnership for the cause of peace" seem to you?

[Churkin] This proposal emerged relatively recently, and I think it proves that the situation has entered the stage of allaying fears and adopting rational decisions. So far the idea of these agreements exists in general form.

[Ovcharenko] Does the fact that the agreements will not be backed by security guarantees disturb you?

[Churkin] This is the last thing which concerns Russia. There are countries which say they would like to receive such guarantees. We, however, are in a position to defend ourselves. But it seems to us that as the process develops observance of all interests may be achieved—including the interests of these countries.

[Ovcharenko] What will be the next step?

[Churkin] So far this proposal is addressed mainly to NATO countries themselves. As far as I know, the idea has been perceived favorably, but its formal approval still lies ahead. But this does not mean that we will simply sit and wait for NATO's January meeting. Our consultations with partners will continue.

[Ovcharenko] So, will Russia becomes a full NATO member one day?

[Churkin] Maybe yes, maybe no.

Churkin Reaffirms Support for Russians in Baltics
LD2710141293 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in
Russian 1200 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Text] Russia will not conduct any anti-Baltic propaganda and will not link the withdrawal of its troops from Latvia and Estonia with other problems. This was said in a BALTFAX interview with Russian Deputy Foreign

Minister Vitaliy Churkin. At the same time, the Russian diplomat noted, Russia considers it all right to state its concerns openly to the leadership of the Baltic states on a number of issues, including the situation of the Russian-speaking population. According to Vitaliy Churkin, the Baltic countries, particularly Estonia, have not yet implemented in full the recommendations of the CSCE and other international organizations on improving the observance of human rights.

Special Envoy Discusses Army Withdrawal From Latvia

WS2810140093 Kaliningrad STRAZH BALTIKI in
Russian 13 Oct 93 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Sergey Zotov, special envoy and head of the delegation for negotiations with Latvia, by A. Riskin; place and date not given; under the "From First Hands" rubric: "Politicians Are To Decide When the Military Will Leave Latvia"]

[Text] It has become tradition for Sergey Zotov, head of the Russian delegation for negotiations with Latvia, to grant our newspaper an interview after each round of talks. This is particularly pleasant, because the Russian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary for special missions is not only an erudite person, but also a man with a firm position in defending the rights of the Russian-speaking population that has been forced to live beyond its ethnic borders by fate. By the way, our conversation began with a more definitive question regarding the overall results of the two days of talks with the Latvian delegation.

[Zotov] I think that the primary achievement is that we managed to avoid the worst thing—that is, the Latvian side was ready to present a completely new draft agreement on troop withdrawal, which meant in principle that we would be thrown back to where we started. Thank God that the delegations renounced such an option, and we were able to continue our work on the basis of existing material and on the 95 percent of texts coordinated during previous rounds. We have moved forward in negotiating this document to some extent. However, the cardinal questions, including the withdrawal schedule, still remain unresolved.

[Riskin] What are the disagreements?

[Zotov] The Russian delegation has said very explicitly that its goal is to unblock the situation hampering the troop withdrawal. To this end, it is necessary to remove all obstacles resulting from the absence of agreements on the social security of servicemen and their families, as well as military pensioners, residing in Latvia. President Yeltsin's decree issued last year states clearly that the troop withdrawal cannot be resumed until these problems are resolved. We have stressed that if these two agreements are not concluded in the near future, the withdrawal will be over in 1995 rather than in 1994. Therefore, we believe that all the responsibility for the

current situation rests with the Latvian side. The accomplished work shows that Latvia has no desire to agree on the key issue—accommodation. It is again referring to domestic law, which we already heard two and a half years ago....

We have the impression that our partners in negotiations do not understand that we have not come here to put our signatures under some Latvian law that often contradicts international legal norms. We are here to adopt political decisions and sign international agreements that transcend domestic law.

Generally, we will demand that military pensioners be granted Latvian citizenship, if, of course, the Saeima approves this, or at least permanent residence.

The second condition is military pensioners' right to housing and the freedom to sell or transfer that housing to their relatives, and so on. Today, the Latvian side does not agree with this. As for the servicemen's social security, we believe that the current homes of our officers and their families is Russian state property. Leaving them to Latvia, we have the right to demand compensation to be able to build new homes in Russia.

[Riskin] Is the "Lithuanian model"—when troops were withdrawn without signing a relative agreement—possible in Latvia?

[Zotov] I think that this is excluded. The thing that happened in Lithuania is a disappointing misunderstanding that does not go with the normal process of negotiations. This will not recur. This is simply unacceptable to Russian leaders in general, particularly in this difficult situation.

[Riskin] Is there any U.S. pressure on Russia, and has the threat voiced by the U.S. Congress to suspend all credits to Russia until it fully withdraws troops from Latvia and Estonia had any influence on your delegation's position?

[Zotov] This is a good and correct question. I think that we must say clearly—and let your newspaper publicize this—that the United States is conducting a double-dealer's policy or, if you like, they are applying double standards to Russia. On the other hand, the United States proclaims its support for Russian leaders and its policy of reform, while, on the other hand, it puts our leaders in a difficult situation by advancing and supporting categorical demands concerning immediate and absolute troop withdrawal. This is interference in the negotiations and our internal affairs. This is unsuitable for such an imposing and great superpower as the United States. I think that the Russians must consider this fact, and that their growing doubts about the actual U.S. intentions toward Russia are completely grounded. Regarding the U.S. "carrot" that is being waved before our noses (I mean the promised \$700 million), many people in our country suspect that there will always be some pretext for preventing Russia from receiving this

money. Certainly, we do need assistance. However, we have certain higher values—honor and national dignity. We do not deal in them.

[Riskin] To what extent are concessions from both sides possible in negotiating the issue of three strategic objects—Liepaja, Ventspils, and Skrunda?

[Zotov] Do you want to receive a reply on the possible results of a normal diplomatic bargain? We can move toward certain compromises regarding the period of these objects' functioning. However, today they exist in our "package," and we do not intend to renounce them. As for Skrunda, we have proposed the period of nine or 10 years and we are going to defend it, the more so that this station does not pose any danger to Latvia. The Saeima elections have proven this—the Army did not interfere and it is not interfering now. Thus, from the viewpoint of international law, the Army's ownership of these objects is quite legitimate. Regarding Ventspils and Liepaja, we propose five or six years. By the way, I can state officially that the authority in withdrawing and closing the bases does not belong to individual servicemen, no matter how high their ranks. This is a matter of state policy. I am referring to some officials' statements that everything will be withdrawn from, let us say, Liepaja next year. I repeat that this is the matter for the Foreign Ministry rather than the military. The latter is an executor and it will withdraw troops to a specified place only under orders. Currently, we have no place to where we could withdraw submarines and no housing for the Liepaja Marines.

[Riskin] When will the next round of negotiations take place?

[Zotov] In mid- or late October.

[Riskin] Thank you for the interview.

Border With Georgia To Be Closed From 1 Nov
LD2810204093 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By S. Shcherbal; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The state border between Russia and Georgia, which has remained open since the states' proclamation of sovereignty, will be closed from 1 November. A border strip is to be introduced along its whole length, and a border regime will begin to operate in the vicinity of the strip.

This means that the admission to the regime territory of everyone, apart from local residents, will be effected through special passes. Those who come here on vacation—let us recall that the border runs through a resort area—will have to register with internal affairs bodies within three days.

The question of closing the border, like, incidentally, conferring on the kray the status of a border area, has been raised by the kray authorities for several years.

Proximity to an area of military conflict and the vagueness of the border regime have created practically uncontrollable floods of migrants in the Kuban. These processes have resulted in a sharp deterioration in the crime situation and a number of other negative phenomena. This, in turn, has given rise to growing irritation on the part of the local population, and the Cossacks in particular.

Foreign Ministry Aide on Madrid Talks Anniversary

*LD2910144493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1414 GMT 29 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Boris Krivoshey and Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow October 29 TASS—Russia is confident further development of the Mid-Eastern peace process will enable the soonest achievement of the major goal - comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region, deputy head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's press and information department Mikhail Demurin told a briefing here today.

Russia will continue doing its best to help this process, noted Demurin, who spoke on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Madrid peace conference on the Middle East to be marked on Saturday.

"The Russian Foreign Ministry notes with satisfaction that within two last years the Mid-Eastern peace process has become a major area of world politics and an efficient formula to pull international and regional peace-making efforts in the Middle East.

"The potential of this process has enabled its mechanisms to prove their vitality," said the official.

Further on Claims of Iraqi Funding for Deputies

*AU2910090993 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian
27 Oct 93 p 5*

[Report by unidentified HOLOS UKRAYINY correspondent in Moscow: "Did Ruslan Receive Dollars From Saddam?"]

[Text] *New facts on corruption within the leadership and among the deputies of the former Russian parliament may become one of this year's most striking political sensations in the world.*

A major Arabic newspaper AL-HAYAH published in London, has confirmed the fact admitted by official Baghdad that Ruslan Khasbulatov received "extra pay" from Saddam Husayn totalling no more and no less than \$7 million. The newspaper asserts, referring to informed sources, that this revelation originates from the head of the Iraqi Intelligence Service. Last week, he visited Moscow, but, quite naturally, the visit was not advertised by anyone.

Vladimir Kulistikov, "Radio Liberty" Moscow correspondent, was the first to learn about the sensation. Referring to an unidentified source within the Russian Federation Security Ministry, he confirmed the fact of the trip and its confidential nature. Its main objective, V. Kulistikov maintains, was to provide, as a gesture of good will on the part of S. Husayn, full information on the ties between activists of the Russian opposition and Baghdad.

Referring to a different source, the same "Radio Liberty" claims that \$7 million was not a "subsidy" for Ruslan Imranovich alone, but also for all the activists of the now ousted "red opposition." It cannot be ruled out that "presents" were also received by Baburin, Konstantinov, and other members of parliament who repeatedly visited Baghdad and vigorously criticized Russia's external policy during and after the Persian Gulf crisis.

Cuban Ambassador Discusses New Barter Deal

LD2810231593 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 2100 GMT 28 Oct 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Russia and Cuba are discussing the possibility of concluding a new barter deal for 1994: oil to be exchanged for sugar. This was declared in a statement by the Russian minister of foreign economic relations on the results of a meeting between Oleg Davydov, minister of foreign economic relations, and Cuban Ambassador Rogelio Montenegro.

The statement notes that Russian private firms will not be allowed to conclude any new deals with Cuba without the participation of the central bodies.

Commission To Investigate Missing Foreigners, Russians

PM2710141593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Edict No. 1719 of the Russian Federation President, signed by President B. Yeltsin and dated Moscow, The Kremlin, 21 October 1993]

[Text] For the purposes of a speedy and full investigation of the cases of the disappearance of foreign citizens without a trace on Russia's territory, and of the disappearance of Russian citizens in unclear circumstances outside the territory of the former USSR, I decree:

1. To form a commission under the Russian Federation president to investigate cases of the disappearance without a trace of citizens of foreign states, as well as the disappearance of Russian citizens in unclear circumstances outside the borders of the former Soviet Union (hereinafter "the commission"), on the basis of the

working body of the Russian part of the Interdepartmental Commission for the Clarification of the Fate of U.S. Citizens who Went Missing on the Territory of the Former USSR.

2. To appoint D.A. Volkogonov, adviser to the Russian Federation president on questions of defense and security, as chairman of the commission.

3. Commission Chairman D.A. Volkogonov is to submit a Draft Statute on the Commission, as well as proposals on its composition.

4. The Russian Federation General Prosecutor, the Russian Federation Ministry of Security, the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense, the Russian Federation Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Russian Federation Foreign Intelligence Service, the Russian State Archive Service, and other ministries and departments are to give the commission the necessary help and assistance in performing the tasks it has been set within its powers.

5. The Russian Federation president is to be kept informed of the commission's activity.

[signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
[dated] Moscow, the Kremlin, 21 October 1993
No. 1719

Volkogonov on Missing Citizens

PM2710140193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in
Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Interview with D. Volkogonov, president's adviser on questions of defense and security, by Ruslan Ignatyev; place and date not given: "The Motherland Should Be Responsible for Its Children"]

[Text] B. Yeltsin's edict dated 21 October 1993 created a commission under the Russian Federation president to investigate cases of the disappearance without trace of citizens of foreign states, as well as the disappearance of Russian citizens in unclear circumstances outside the borders of the former Soviet Union. Your special ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA correspondent asked D. Volkogonov, chairman of the newly formed commission and the president's adviser on questions of defense and security, to comment on this document.

[Ignatyev] Dmitriy Antonovich, a similar commission has already been formed, after all. And as we know, you are participating directly in its work. How will the new commission differ from it?

[Volkogonov] Yes, a Soviet-U.S. commission has been involved in ascertaining the fates of U.S. citizens for over a year now. And it has had good results. Thus we have already found out about the fates of 22,000 Americans. Many of them perished in camps in uncertain

circumstances. Work is continuing in this sphere. However, there are also many of our own people who disappeared abroad while performing their military and official duty. They include diplomats, prominent scientists, specialists, advisers. That is why we raised the issue of forming a special commission. We made this proposal to the president, and he supported us.

[Ignatyev] How are you planning to organize your work?

[Volkogonov] Our commission will work on a voluntary basis. We do not have a single permanent staffer. We have not taken a single ruble from the state. At the moment there are two of us: My assistant, Sergey Osipov, and I. We are involving archivists, servicemen, professors, and postgraduate students in our work. In other words, people who do not measure everything purely in terms of rubles or dollars, but also in terms of conscience, responsibility, compassion, and humanism. Fortunately there are many idealists like this in our country.

[Ignatyev] Have you already received requests from people to look for their friends and relatives?

[Volkogonov] As soon as the edict came out people from various cities in the country started calling me. One of them wanted to know what had happened to his father who disappeared in Afghanistan, someone else asked about their son who disappeared without a trace in Ethiopia. Requests like this are continuing to come in. That is, there was a lightning response, so to speak, to the document that has come out. Today it is important for us not just to ascertain what happened to our deceased fellow citizens after the event. After all, thousands of people are affected. For instance, the commander of a K-129 submarine which disappeared is mentioned in the list of the crew. He left behind a wife and two children: The daughter is now 40 and the son is 30. His deputy, the senior assistant, also left two children. And they still do not know whereabouts at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean the bodies lie, nor do they know the circumstances surrounding the deaths of people who were close to them.

[Ignatyev] Has the question of the disappearance of Swedish Diplomat Raul Wallenberg been resolved?

[Volkogonov] No. We will continue our search. By no means everything has been ascertained about the fate of two of our journalists who went missing in Yugoslavia, either. I would like to note that when we were working in the Russian-U.S. commission, we perceived how a state should be concerned about its citizens, how it protects their rights.

[Ignatyev] What period will you cover?

[Volkogonov] We are starting with World War II and going up to the present day. I would like to stress, moreover, that we will not be involved with deserters or those who changed their lives of their own free will and defected. Thus, with the help of our U.S. colleagues, we

acquired a list of 18 former soldiers who now live abroad. We know their addresses, but no one has the right to name them or say where they live. They decide to stay themselves. In another case, we have a fairly long list of our aircraft which were brought down in the cold war years (certain cases relate to 1976-1978). We have to ascertain the names of those who died then. Thus, in 1964 a Tu-16 airplane discovered a large U.S. aircraft carrier force east of the Japanese islands. The Soviet pilot managed to report this, but then communications broke down. The crew of seven disappeared. We now have to establish the names of these people. The Americans are promising to give us precise coordinates of the disaster. It is still not known why one of our airplanes came down near the island of Newfoundland. This happened in 1976.

I am particularly worried by the loss of the K-129 submarine. The ship's captain, Vladimir Ivanovich Ksazar, and 97 crew members vanished without a trace. In this case, a story was even being circulated that a U.S. submarine and a Soviet submarine apparently collided 8 March 1968. A ship which had bent periscopes was even being named. We made inquiries with the U.S. side. They accommodated us and gave us a detailed report on this matter. Our conjectures about a collision were not confirmed.

[Ignatyev] It is known that attempts were made to raise our submarine to the surface.

[Volkogonov] With the help of a special apparatus, the Americans managed to raise only part of the submarine from a depth of over 5,000 meters. Together with it, the remains of six crew members were removed from the deep, as well as some torpedo nuclear warheads [torpedno-yadernyye boyegolovki]. They are saying that all of this is in a special sarcophagus—it is not dangerous. They are giving us the opportunity to examine the "find." The only thing we would like is to publish the names of all 97 people.

On 15 December 1952 another of our submarines disappeared without a trace in the Tatar Strait. A total of 51 people went to the bottom of the sea with it. Nothing has been heard about this so far. Although over 40 years have gone by, evidently those who died had grandchildren who would like to know what happened to their grandfathers. And in 1978, Lieutenant Colonel N.F. Udalov, Captain V.L. Knyazev, Captain V.S. Filipov, Sergeant N.I. Gorelov, and many others disappeared in Ethiopia. There is a similar list for Afghanistan.

By and large, you can imagine how much work we have. And naturally, we are hoping for assistance from the press.

For Your Information: All inquiries should be addressed to the commission at the following address: 103132 Moscow, Ilinka No. 10. Telephone No. (095) 206-38-09, Fax No. (095) 206-35-79.

Yeltsin Decrees

Yeltsin Issues Decree on Land Reform

LD2810131593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0930 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Decree by the President of the Russian Federation on the Regulation of Land Relations and the Development of Agrarian Reform in Russia

With the aim of improving the legal regulation of land relations and extending agrarian reform on the basis of variety of forms of ownership of land, the equal development of various forms of management, the independence of rural goods producers, and increasing state support from the agroindustrial complex under market economy conditions until the adoption of the bases of Russian Federation land legislation, I decree:

1. That plots of land and everything firmly connected to them are regarded as immovable property. Land deals are regulated by civil legislation, taking into consideration land, forest, nature conservation, and other specialized legislation and the present decree.

2. That citizens and legal persons who are land owners have the right to sell, bequeath, gift, mortgage, rent out, and exchange land, and also transfer land or part of it as an investment in the capital funds of joint stock companies, associations, and cooperatives, including ones which have foreign investments. That citizens and legal persons can form common joint property or common shared property by voluntarily combining land and land shares which belong to them.

3. That every land owner is issued with a certificate of the right to land ownership (hereafter certificate) which is to be registered in a registration (land) book. The certificate is a document certifying the right to land ownership and serves as the basis in deals concerning the purchase, sale, mortgaging, and leasing of land, and also for other actions involving the ownership, use, and disposition of land in accordance with existing legislation.

The proposed form of certificate of the right to land ownership is to be approved. When the land plot is initially granted, the certificate is issued by the appropriate committee for land resources and land tenure at the decision of the local administration. During the purchase and sale of land plots, and in other cases of the transfer of the right to land ownership, the certificate is issued by the aforementioned committee on the basis of a contract of purchase and sale (bill of sale), or other documents confirming the transfer of the right to land ownership.

State acts and certificates on granting ownership of land plots issued before this decree comes into force are permanently valid documents certifying the right to land ownership, and have equal legal force to the certificates covered by this point.

Citizens who have acquired land plots with the right to lifelong ownership and bequest, or with the right of

permanent use, or who have taken them on lease, except leases taken from physical entities, have the right to be granted ownership of these plots or to purchase them in accordance with existing legislation.

Documents confirming the right to ownership of land plots or the right of use of land plots issued after this decree comes into force by bodies of executive power and local self-government, without being registered at the rayon (town) committee for land resources and land tenure, are invalid.

4. The state guarantees the inviolability and protection of private ownership of land, and also the protection of the rights of owners of land when carrying out transactions with land. The expropriation of a plot of land for state and public needs will be carried out in accordance with the procedure established by the law by buying it back, taking into account the owner's interests, including compensation for the value of the land at a contractual price and losses caused, including loss of opportunity.

Buying back of plots of land for federal needs is done by the Committee for Land Resources and Land-tenure regulations of the Russian Federation, on the basis of a decision of the Council of Ministers, Government of the Russian Federation.

All disputes connected with the transfer and purchase of plots of lands, and also other land disputes, are to be examined in the courts.

5. Every member of a collective within an agricultural enterprise to whom the land belongs on the basis of joint or several ownership is issued with a certificate of land ownership right in the form approved by this edict, with an indication of the area of the land share without an apportionment in kind.

Agricultural enterprises, the members of whose collectives own the land as commonly shared or commonly allotted property, will present to local administration bodies within a two-week period from the moment a member of the collective submits an application for a certificate, lists of the owners, indicating the size of the allotments of land (shares).

The owners of allotments of land (shares) have the right, without the consent of other owners, to apportion a plot of land in kind for the purpose of managing a peasant (small-hold) farm, to mortgage, and lease, to extend up to the established norm of a plot used for private smallhold farming and individual home construction, and also to exchange the allotment of land (share) for a share of property; to bequeath it, to receive the value (cost) of the allotment of land in the event of the plot of land owned by the collective as commonly shared or commonly apportioned property being purchased, and to restore losses incurred, including lost profit.

The owners of allotments (shares) have the right, without the consent of other owners, to sell allotments (shares) to other members of the collective, as well as to other

citizens and juridical persons for the production of agricultural produce. At the same time, members of the collective have preference in obtaining allotments (shares) over other purchasers.

The apportionment of allotments (shares) in kind is carried out in relation to requirements on the rational organization of territory and compact land tenure. The rights to apportionment of allotments (shares) in kind do not extend to the employees of agricultural enterprises, the reorganization of which is being carried out in accordance with Paras 20-23 of the Statute on the Reorganization of Collective Farms and State Farms, and the Privatization of Agricultural Enterprises, which was endorsed by decision No. 708 of the Russian Federation Government dated 4 September 1992.

6. To establish that individuals leaving collective farms and other agricultural enterprises in order to organize peasant (smallhold) farms are provided with a property share in kind in accordance with established procedure. In the event of a collective refusing to allocate a property share in kind, or if there is no possibility of ensuring in kind the right to a property share, it is incumbent upon enterprises to allocate financial compensation amounting to the cost of the property share, index-linked to the minimum wage from the time the value of the share is estimated.

7. That it be established that committees on land resources and land tenure have the right, upon instruction from local administrations, to buy up land shares at contractual prices with the aim of replenishing land redistribution funds, allocating land to citizens and legal persons, and selling it.

That cash funds are formed for these purposes in the committees for land resources and land tenure out of the monies received through the sale or leasing of land by a local administration, compensation payments for taking agricultural land out of agricultural use, fines for infringements of land legislation, and some of the monies paid for services rendered by the committees for land resources and land tenure during operations involving land. These funds are used, in addition to purchasing land shares, for improving lands, preparing territory for use, the material and technical supply of committees for land resources and land tenure, and carrying out land survey work.

8. To establish that the sale of land may take place at bidding competitions (konkurs) or auctions.

The purchase of parts of a land plot granted earlier above the maximum norms is effected in accordance with Paragraph six Point four of edict No. 480, issued on 23 April 1993 by the president of the Russian Federation, "On additional measures to provide citizens with land plots."

The sale of land to owners of privatized enterprises is effected under the procedure confirmed by Edict No. 631, issued on 14 June 1992 by the president of the Russian Federation, "On Confirming the Procedure for the Sale of

Land Plots in the Privatization of State and Municipal Enterprises, the Extension and Additional Construction of these Enterprises, and also Granted to Citizens and their Associations for Entrepreneurial Activity."

The sale of land plots being used in agricultural production with an alteration of their intended purpose is effected by decision of the body of executive authority within the constituent part of the Russian Federation.

9. To speed up the procedure for registering the right of ownership of a land plot and an allotment of land (share), or the apportioning of a plot in kind, it is to be envisaged that:

The appropriate application to the bodies of local administration is considered within one month of its submission;

a decision (extract of a decision) by a local administration body on the granting or sale of land as property, on the re-registration of land rights, the allocation of land, or a rejection of such actions, is to be issued within seven days of the decision being made;

the issue by committees on land resources and land tenure of certificates is carried out on the basis of a decision by local administration bodies within 10 days of the decision being adopted or the registration of a purchase-sale agreement.

The following are a basis for refusal to issue a certificate of the right to land ownership:

A direct ban in Russian Federation legislative acts on granting land as property;

the existence of disputes over the ownership of a given plot of land when a request is made;

a change in land use, excluding instances envisaged by Point 8 of this decree.

The list of reasons for refusal to issue a certificate of the right to land ownership is exhaustive.

If there is no plan of the boundaries of a plot of land, the appropriate committee for land resources and land tenure will, within one month after the issue of a certificate, establish and register the plot's boundaries and issue the owner with a copy of the plan of the plot's boundaries.

10. That it be established that the chairman of the Russian Federation Committee on Land Resources and Land Tenure is simultaneously the chief state inspector of the utilization and conservation of Russian Federation lands, and that the chairmen of local committees on land resources and land tenure are accordingly state inspectors of the utilization and conservation of lands of the republics within the Russian Federation, krais, oblasts, autonomous formations, towns, and rayons.

11. That, as of 1994, compulsory deliveries and other forms of forced removal of agricultural produce for state resources is abolished.

12. That the Russian Federation State Committee for the Management of State Property is to provide for in the state program for privatizing Russian Federation state and municipal enterprises in 1993-94, the compulsory selling of shares in enterprises involved in primary processing of agricultural produce, fish and sea products, and enterprises involved in production and technical servicing, and the material and technical supply of the agroindustrial complex, in accordance with the first or third version of privileges for sales at closed check auctions of all remaining shares to agricultural and fish goods producers, and also citizens living in a rural location in the raw material zone of a privatized enterprise in accordance with Russian Federation legislation.

13. The Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation is to work out a system of measures of state support for the agroindustrial complex, according to the following main aspects:

Lending, including lending on favorable terms, to rural commodity producers, to cover their seasonal costs;

forming federal and regional food funds on the basis of purchases of produce with the prepayment of rural commodity producers;

compensation for a portion of the expenditure on the production of individual types of agricultural output;

financing state capital investments for the development of agricultural science and the implementation of priority special purpose programs;

granting investment credit for the construction of individual dwellings and production facilities;

setting up and developing peasant (smallhold) farms;

forming initial capital for peasant banks and insurance companies which are being set up;

compensation for a portion of the insurance payments of rural commodity producers.

14. The Council of Ministers - Government of the Russian Federation is:

a) Within a month:

To approve provisions on holding tenders and auctions for the sale of land plots and other transactions involving land and on state control regarding the use and protection of land in the Russian Federation;

to submit draft decrees of the president of the Russian Federation on taxation of the sale of land and other transactions involving land, on agricultural cooperatives, on the mortgaging of agricultural production, and the mortgaging of agricultural land;

b) Within two months:

To approve the procedure for the redemption of land shares and the redistribution of redeemed land, and for

the formation and use of the special monetary funds of committees for land resources and land tenure;

to approve provisions on the procedure for the redemption of land plots for federal needs, and on the procedure for providing cossack communities with land plots;

to submit the draft decree of the president of the Russian Federation on mortgaging;

to adopt a state program for the development of wholesale food markets envisaging the formation of inter-regional, regional, and rural wholesale-retail markets and agricultural exchanges.

15. This decree comes into force on publication.

[Signed] B. Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation
[Dated] Moscow, the Kremlin, 27 October 1993
No.1767

Impact of Land Reform Decree Discussed

Officials Explain Decree

LD2810202893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1812 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Galkin]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—Over 60 million people will become landowners in Russia in accordance with a presidential decree allowing free purchase and sale of land for the first time since 1917.

The decree signed by Boris Yeltsin on Wednesday [27 October] creates a legal basis for developing market relations in the agrarian sector and provides juridical and property guarantees for the owners of land in Russia. It also determines the mechanism of land redistribution, said Aleksandr Kalinin, head of the government agriculture department, and Valeriy Alakozov, first deputy chairman of the land committee.

Speaking at a news conference in Moscow on Thursday, Kalinin and Alakozov said that the decree contains measures against speculation in land and emergence of land monopolies. To this end, land will be sold only on condition that its new owner will not use it for other purposes than those stated by the previous owner. If he decides to resell the land he will have to pay large taxes.

Local authorities will have preferential rights in purchasing and selling land. They will also decide how much land can be sold to farmers. The authors of the decree believe that in central Russia they may buy up to 35-40 hectares.

Kalinin and Alakozov warned that those who decide to sell their plots of land for profit now should reconsider their decision as inflation will immediately devour the bulk of what they may gain from such deals. They admitted that land had been traded before the decree as

well. The price of one quarter of an acre outside Moscow ranged between 100 to 1,000 dollars.

In an interview with Ostankino Television late on Thursday, Russian Vice-Prime Minister Aleksandr Zaveryukha said that the decree will help streamline all production relations in agriculture. "The decree will dot all i's and cross all t's, especially as regards land ownership, including the right to sell land, give it away, rent it or pass it down to one's children," Zaveryukha said.

Peasants' Party Comments

LD2810172693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1607 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] Moscow October 28 ITAR-TASS—After Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed a decree proclaiming private land ownership lawful in Russia, many party leaders are worried that the move might remain on paper.

One of such leaders, Yuriy Chernichenko, who heads the Russian Peasants' Party, told a press conference here today that the future parliament (to be elected on December 12) will need "a powerful agrarian lobby" to ensure the translation of the presidential decree into life.

The lobby must be made up not only of farmers, who cannot be torn away from their farm work for long, but of professional capable of defending the rights of free farm producers.

"We must not permit members of the former (Communist) Party nomenklatura permeate the future parliament and pose as protectors of the farmers's interests, as it was in the past," Chernichenko stressed.

Chernichenko believes that the Russian countryside is still under a strong influence of a "collective farm lobby". He called for doing away with the practice of purchasing grain abroad, which the government finds more profitable than buying from the country's own farmers.

"If our agrarian policy does not get priority support from the state, all other reforms will grind to a halt," he said.

Details of Reform Criticized

PM2810120393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
26 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Article by Andrey Lazorevskiy: "Under the President's Draft Edict, Land Remains in the Hands of the Kolkhoz 'Feudal Lords'"]

[Text] Land and real estate property relations existing in Russia are feudal and prefeudal. The local organs of power, the virtually unchanged kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and the state in the person of the Russian Federation Committee for Land Resources and Land

Management and the local land committees act as collective landlords. The very concept of real estate, including in relation to land, does not exist; nor does a system for registering it.

The absence of a real estate market is the main obstacle to carrying out market reforms.

And now the edict of the Russian president "On the Regulation of Land Relations and the Development of Agrarian Reform" has finally been drafted. It would seem that this is progress. However, in terms of its content the edict is aimed at strengthening semifeudal land and real estate property relations in rural areas, and, through its silence on the matter, gives scope for the same course of events in the sphere of city land use.

It is necessary to establish a sequence and strategy for resolving the problems addressed in the draft, since each subsequent problem can be solved on the basis of the previous one, like the floors in a house under construction.

The first floor is real estate, including land, as an object of ownership.

The second is the creation of a real estate market (irrespective of rural or city location).

The third floor is the reform of relations in the sphere of land and real estate.

The fourth is agrarian reform.

And above all the floors—mortgage as an instrument of long-term investment.

In point of fact, the draft does not contain new radical measures in the sphere of land reform. Moreover, it conserves and strengthens in veiled form the kolkhoz-sovkhoz system of agricultural production, which has reduced Russia to a level of labor productivity 15-25 times below that of its neighbors, as a result "ensuring" a chronic food crisis.

Of the many defects in the draft, the most important are the following:

First, it does not create real estate as an object of ownership. Without the allocation of a plot of land, in the absence of a precise, legally enshrined plan of the plot, without an honest, clear system of registration of the physical object and registration of the rights of ownership to it, it is effectively a fiction:

Second, the declared right to private ownership is a deception. One plot of land cannot have two owners—a private and a collective (or joint, co-) [obshchesovmestnyy dolevoy] owner. The declared inviolability of private ownership of land is also a fiction, since the owner is not granted the right to exchange his real estate for the money equivalent at market price if the plot is requisitioned for state or public needs, and the absence of a definition of the said needs will inevitably lead to the abuse of power.

The allocation of property rights in exchange for obsolete socialist "rights" is literally farmed out to bureaucrats.

Third, all the requirements for preserving the property structures of former kolkhozes and sovkhozes in unaltered form are ensured.

Fourth, the possibility of creating a real estate market is blocked: As a result of the functions of the de facto seller of land and the registration of land being combined in one department, the impartiality and reliability of registration—the basic element of the right to ownership—is undermined.

Fifth, an attempt is made to extend (without limitations) the excessive powers of the Russian Federation Committee for Land Resources and Land Management and the local land committees.

In order to open the road to transformations in agriculture, the peasant should be given the real and tangible right to a plot of land. The formula of collective-shared [kollektivno-dolevaya] or joint-shared [sovmestno-dolevaya] ownership enshrines the right of the kolkhoz and sovkhoz (however they are called) to dispose of land. This is a continuation of the kolkhoz-sovkhoz form of ownership. Land must be in the private ownership of peasants. It can be in collective, joint-stock, or cooperative use for as long as the owners wish to continue their association. Consequently, it is necessary to ensure the peasant's right to receive a share of land in kind. This process cannot be completed in a short campaign like the sale of privatization checks. Delaying it start only stalls the formation of a land and real estate market; to the free disposal of this share within the limits of permitted use, and to unambiguously declare the decisions of kolkhozes and sovkhozes to ban apportionment—that is effectively to rescind the president's edicts of December 1991—as illegal and to rescind these decisions [sentence as published].

You cannot implement land reform under the draft edict while at the same time keeping in mind the aim of strengthening the kolkhoz-sovkhoz system. It is necessary to create the prerequisites for making the transition to a more efficient private farming system. The position of Starodubtsev and "Agrarian Union" should be taken into account, but not followed as a guide.

Problems of agrarian reform are addressed in the draft edict, but they are understood narrowly and not in full. The problems of the reform of state administration of agriculture in conditions of the full autonomy of owners are virtually absent. But this reform is vital. The rejection of compulsory state purchases is mentioned, but there is not a word about how to manage things in the new conditions. There is not a word about a transition to administration by economic methods through targeted federal programs, about incomes and pricing policy, or the development of agrarian markets. Yet these are the rudiments of agrarian legislation in all countries.

The adoption of such an edict could damage the president's image rather than boost it.

Yeltsin Signs Decree on Local, Regional Elections

LD2810135093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1148 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Decree of the President of the Russian Federation on Approving the Main Provisions Concerning the Elections to the Representative Bodies of State Power in Krays, Oblasts, Federal Towns, Autonomous Oblasts and Autonomous Okrugs

In order to implement Edict No. 1617 of the president of the Russian Federation, dated 9 October 1993, "Concerning Reform of Representative Bodies of Power and Bodies of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation," and taking account of the remarks and proposals that have come in from a number of constituent parts of the Federation, and the results of the discussion of the main provisions concerning the elections to representative bodies of state power in krays, oblasts, federal towns, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs, I resolve:

1. To endorse the main provisions concerning the elections to representative bodies of state power in krays, oblasts, federal towns, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs.
2. To recommend to the bodies of state power in krays, oblasts, federal towns, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs, that they should elaborate and adopt relevant provisions with account being taken of the main provisions concerning the elections to representative bodies of state power in krays, oblasts, federal towns, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs, endorsed by this Decree.
3. To regard the mandates of deputies elected to the soviets of people's deputies in krays, oblasts, federal towns, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs, as having lapsed on the day when elections to the appropriate representative bodies of state power take place.

In cases where the powers of a soviet of people's deputies have been stopped in accordance with Edict No. 1617 issued by the president of the Russian Federation dated 9 October 1993, "Concerning Reform of Representative Bodies of Power and Bodies of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation," the mandates of deputies of the relevant soviet of people's deputies lapse simultaneously.

4. This edict comes into force the moment it is published.

[Signed] B. Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation

[Dated] Moscow, Kremlin, 27 October 1993

Number 1765

Edicts Seen Ending Soviet Power System*MK2810124393 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 1*

[Ivan Rodin report in the "Russia" column: "Soviet Representative Power Has Been Abolished Completely. How This Has Really Benefited the Country, Only God Knows So Far"]

[Text] Boris Yeltsin's edict "On the Reform of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation" and the Regulations on the Basic Principles of its Organization During the Period of Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform have been promulgated. Following analogous documents pertaining to the representative branch at the level of Federation components, the edict on reforming local self-government apparently finalizes the liquidation of the specific Soviet power system that was built on the principle of subordination of a lower soviet to a superior one, all the way up to the Supreme Soviet, which in its turn was responsible to the Congress of People's Deputies.

Boris Yeltsin has recommended holding elections to representative (legislative) bodies of Federation components in December through March and to local self-government bodies in December through June. In other words, a long election campaign lies ahead which will end with presidential elections, unless, of course, Yeltsin is "dissuaded" as to the expediency of the latter. The number of deputies in Russia will be substantially cut: in kray and oblast assemblies (dumas) there will be up to 50 people and in local self-government bodies even fewer. Whereas the deputies elected to oblast dumas will get salaries for their work, representatives in municipal committees have been ordered to work for the most part on an irregular basis and to meet at the discretion of the corresponding administration. The term of office for the successors to the soviets of peoples deputies has been established at two years. Their main duty in effect will be approval of plans by heads of the local executive branch that assumes the entire burden of legislative activity as defined for this particular level. Therefore, the representative branch will finally be transformed into such: its form will correspond to its content.

Yet how else can the president use the current inertia of the reformist onslaught? It is possible to transform the lower part of the executive power system, of course, but this calls for extensive and prolonged work. For a speedy reformation there is a much closer object—the top of the executive branch itself: the government and the presidential administration. The former has virtually disappeared at present as a single organism—at least ostensibly, judging by official statements: The vice premiers and the ordinary ministers have affiliated with election blocs—opposed to each other since they are "democratic"—and have apparently "spat" on the economy which they could not tackle in earnest in the past owing to obstruction on the part of the Supreme Soviet, or—on the contrary, like Mr. Chernomyrdin, for instance—they demonstratively refuse to take part

in the election hassle. The Yeltsin administration is also engaged in internal intrigues: For example, Mr. Kotenkov, who has defected to Shakhrai, is competing with Mr. Filatov over who will prepare subsequent reformist edicts—his State Political Directorate or the Commission on Legislative Initiatives.

It is obvious that center stage is now being taken by the task of disciplining the ministers who have been carried away by the prospects of parliamentarianism, without, however, making any decisions against particular individuals [personalnyye resheniya]. The president is also to decide whether the mutually offensive rhetoric by some of his people should be allowed to continue further or whether he should recall the unity as it existed in early October and enforce it. In this context the idea of creating a provisional state council to oversee the activity of the executive branch, which was put forward recently, has good chances of being translated into life.

Decree Ensuring Shareholders' Rights Issued*LD2810190193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1732 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin issued on Wednesday [27 October] a decree "on measures to ensure shareholders' rights". With a view to expand the securities market, to develop competition on the commodity and financial markets and to secure the rights of shareholders, and taking into account proposals by the Commission for Securities and Stock Exchanges under the Russian president, it is ruled that open joint-stock companies should keep registers of their shareholders in compliance with the present decree.

The document stresses that the register of shareholders is to be kept either directly by the joint-stock company or on its instruction by a bank, investment institution (except for investment advisers), deposit-taker or by a special registering clerk.

The register keeper is to include data on nominal shareholders into the register on a written instruction from the company or its shareholders. Under Russian legislation, the right to act as nominal shareholders is granted to relevant property funds, banks, investment institutions (except for investments advisers) and deposit-takers effecting transactions with shares on behalf and on instruction from a joint-stock company and/or shareholders and representing the interests of a joint-stock company and/or shareholders on their instruction.

To ensure openness in the securities market functioning, the decree instructs the Russian Finance Ministry and the State Property Committee to see to it that information on all the registered investment funds be published monthly.

Edict on Bank Branches Aims To Aid Armed Forces

LD2810220993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 2100 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has signed an edict on regulating the activity of field branches of the Russian Central Bank to ensure the functioning of the Armed Forces and the strengthening of the country's defense capacity. The Ministry of Defense and the Central Bank have been requested to submit to the president a draft law regulating the activity of field branches of the Russian Central Bank. This edict is expected to be examined at the Federal Assembly.

Political Issues

**Conference Debates Draft Constitution,
Recommends Changes**

Conference Proceedings Reported

PM2810163193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 26 Oct 93 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "The Kind of Principles We Profess. From the Stenographic Record of the Constitutional Conference"]

[Text] The work on the new draft constitution of the Russian Federation, which has lasted more than three years, is close to completion. As people will know, Russian President Boris Yeltsin has set a specific deadline for the submission of the prepared text to him—3 November.

A commission of top-class lawyers, including representatives of Russia's republics, krais, and oblasts, is putting the finishing touches to the draft constitution. They have, in a short space of time, to resolve all outstanding contentious issues and overcome the difficulties which have emerged in the process of agreeing a number of articles with components of the Federation.

The latest session of the commission on finalizing the draft constitution of the Russian Federation was held in Moscow a few days ago. We present an abridgment of the stenographic record of that session for our readers' attention.

S.A. Filatov:

Esteemed colleagues, on the instruction of President Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin we are to examine during the month of October the comments and proposals on the draft constitution expressed during the summer-fall period by components of the Federation at various levels—at the sessions of inner soviets, full soviets, presidiums, and public assemblies which have been held during these months. The comments cover 95 articles.

You know that elections to both the State Duma and the Federation Council are being held 12 December. And very serious work is under way, I will not hide that from

you, to declare a nationwide referendum, a vote on the new draft constitution, on 12 December...

It is our task therefore not just to prepare a draft constitution but also to prepare the kind of constitution that is acceptable both to the components of the Federation and to society.

I have no wish to pick up the text of the Constitution again and start going through it article by article. We will simply get swamped if we do that. For that reason we could clearly discuss the specific amendments received, and we should address the specifics of them. That is the first point.

The second point is that analysis of the situation which brought us to such tragic events shows that we clearly made a fundamental error somewhere. While we talked about the separation of powers, we effectively reached a point where what we got was not a separation of powers but an estrangement of powers, and this was primarily because one branch of power had a very intransigent attitude toward the other. What I have in mind is that people entering the structures and working as members of the government should cease to be deputies.

I regard this as a very important issue, one which may have to be discussed separately...

Another point is that we have to elect the Federation Council. The reason is, in my opinion, perfectly obvious. The Federation Council that was intended to be created for the transitional period, as it were, from officials has effectively collapsed because our soviets have effectively collapsed. You will be aware that some have been dissolved, others have been deprived of a quorum, yet others deprived of their leaders since many of them are now resigning, while others still have discredited themselves. All this has prevented us from creating an organ which would enjoy society's absolute or even sufficient trust and operate as the Federal Assembly's upper chamber.

Here the question of the participation of particular officials in the Federation Council also arises. The president has adopted a decision that top officials of the components of the Federation have the opportunity to stand as candidates and may join the Federation Council. Given that we are not proposing that the Federation Council will work on the laws article by article, say, this body will assemble periodically to evaluate what is submitted to the State Duma from the standpoint of basically regional interests. In general, the question has been raised of officials and presidents, say, and chairmen of councils of ministers and heads of administration having the opportunity to stand for and work in this body.

I should end my address at this juncture and I now give the floor to Aleksandr Vasilyevich Maslov.

A.V. Masov:

You have been issued with documents and summary tables relating to amendments received since the commission last assembled in this hall. In getting ready to

speak we decided that there was no need to comment in detail on the proposals included in the table, because they are plain to see, they can be looked at and assessed.

We have tried to make a synoptic analysis of the proposals and to highlight basic features.

One of the main focuses of attention is the problem of Russia's federal system. A very large number of proposals have been received—first and foremost, of course, from krais and oblasts—that the principle of the equality of Federation components be introduced into the draft constitution in a more consistent way. Many people think that this will make it possible to strengthen the unity of the Russian Federation, as it will exclude competition to obtain increasingly greater powers, but, I repeat once again, this viewpoint is mainly expressed in the responses by organs of power of krais and oblasts.

At the same time proposals are received which are not related to the problem of equality but which also express concern about the strengthening of Russia's unity. The Republic of Altay Supreme Soviet Presidium notably proposes enshrining in the draft constitution the provision that the exercise of the rights and powers of Russian Federation constituent republics, krais, oblasts, and cities of federal status may not be at variance with the Constitution.

S.S. Alekseyev, chairman of the Private Law Research Center Council:

I would like to make four points. The first is as follows: I regard the last draft of the constitution adopted by the Constitutional Conference as the offshoot of a period when we were going all out to make compromises—a compromise with the former Supreme Soviet, a compromise with the ideology which it upheld. The most remarkable thing is that a large group of real professional political scientists (and that is outstanding) joined in the work of the Constitutional Conference. Nevertheless, for all that, the last draft of the Constitution contains considerable concessions and combines incompatible things...

Second point. It seems to me that the draft constitution has lost its consistently democratic, forward-looking content. Given that I have a certain attitude to the problems of the philosophy of law and took part in the elaboration of the conceptual aspect of the draft, I should like to say the following: The draft was initially based on the fact that our Constitution, in keeping with the very latest trends in the constitutional sphere, should become a constitution based on people. Not a constitution based on power or a constitution based on philosophies and ideology, but a constitution based on people. Therefore, the first articles in it were immediately devoted to the absolute status, the inviolable nature, and the maximum protection of human rights, and that—not presidential or parliamentary power—was designed to set the tone of the whole content. Presidential and parliamentary power are secondary matters, in my view. Human rights, protected by the courts and the system of justice, should be of paramount importance.

Unfortunately, as a result of work done and amendments (and amendments always lead to some kind of mean value arising), the "linchpin," the point of reference vanished, disappeared. Pride of place was taken by general provisions—fundamental human rights were equated with socioeconomic rights, although these are fundamentally different categories from the standpoint of fundamental approaches—and a number of other things.

Furthermore, there appeared in the draft—I will put it a little severely, excuse me for this—certain pro-soviet elements, that is to say, elements connected with a soviet vision of the constitution. The constitution starts from general provisions, as in all our previous constitutions. Take all our preceding constitutions and you will find that general provisions were notable. And there are notable general provisions here, provisions which are largely declarative. The "social state" has appeared, this already constitutes an ideological approach, because the "social state" represents a social democratic vision of the whole matter. The postulates of the former ideology are still strong among us all.

The third point relates to the kind of solution I see. Ideally we would rework the draft to some extent, go back to certain fundamental tenets, and examine once again the basic tenets—liberalism, freedom, and so forth. But that, in the first place, is very difficult work, you cannot do it in a couple of days or a week, and certain new stereotypes which have emerged need to be overcome. In the second place, we will not have the public support which the draft received at the Constitutional Conference, that is very important.

My opinion is that the part of the constitution concerning the supreme organs of power, for which elections are taking place, should be put to a referendum so that these organs—the Federal Assembly and the president—obtain legitimation by the people right now... While the final drafting of the Constitution should be handed over to the Federal Assembly, limiting its term to, say, two years, so that that its main task is to draw up a really beautiful fundamental constitution.

S.A. Filatov:

We have agreed to examine the fourth, fifth, and sixth chapters.

If I may say a word here. We have before us prepared articles and prepared amendments that have come from the components of the Federation. We could run through them, if you wish, but we could also talk about them in general terms.

I want to draw your attention to the fact that very many Federation components have insisted on retaining the post of vice president. That is reflected in the amendments, although the following question also occurs to me. We will have a Federation Council, say. It will have two people in it representing each Federation component. Who will chair the Federation Council sessions, who will be elected? Or, again, the question arises of the

president having the opportunity to appoint the vice president to carry out certain instructions, including the conduct of Federation Council sessions. Here there is a question and proposal.

B.A. Strashun, leader of the Russian Federation Constitutional Court Scientific Consultative Council:

I think our experience has shown that the actual structure of the institution of vice president harbors a great danger. The vice president, especially if he, as in the United States, assumes the functions of president if the president leaves before the end of his term will, of course, objectively have an interest in the president's departure. We are not necessarily talking about his death but, in general terms, about his departure for any reason. Therefore, a certain mistrust of the vice president was enshrined in the constitution from the very outset with the wording that he should carry out the president's duties for a period of three months only prior to elections. In that case, given such a structure, the vice president was altogether superfluous.

L.S. Mamut, chief scientific associate of the Russian Academy of Sciences Institute of State and Law:

When, in early September, we began the work of this group of the Constitutional Commission, which was formed by the president on 8 September 1993, we discussed this question, among others, Sergey Aleksandrovich, we discussed it very intensively and we came to the conclusion that the figure of the vice president and the post of vice president are redundant. We proceeded from the propositions just expressed by Boris Aleksandrovich. Moreover, we proceeded on the basis that, under our draft constitution, the prime minister is a very strong and very significant figure of executive power. And the presence of three such figures at the top level of executive power—the president, vice president, and prime minister—is a manifest distortion.

M.A. Mityukov, chairman of the Legislative Proposals Commission under the President of the Russian Federation:

In principle, one of our political tasks is to ensure not just the separation of powers, in which we have been successful, but also the unity of those powers. Thus the establishment of the institution of a vice president who would simultaneously be chairman of the upper chamber (with, naturally, some limited powers—voting, say, only in the case of votes being equally divided, as envisaged in the U.S. Senate) could be one legal organizational means of securing the unity of powers. There is no need therefore to abandon this idea, it still needs to be discussed from the standpoint of ensuring not just the separation but the unity of legislative and executive powers.

S.A. Filatov:

Now to the chapter entitled "President." Let us look at that once again.

Article 80: The proposal is that the words "determines the basic areas of state domestic and foreign policy" be removed from Part Two.

Do you remember? We all spent a long time arguing over this article at the time. Part 2 reads: "Determines the basic guidelines of state domestic and foreign policy and ensures the coordinated functioning and collaboration of all state organs."

Do we return to this question or is everything kept as it is, nothing has changed in our attitude to this, has it? I can see no reasons for changing it. This would be a retrograde step.

Article 81: Let us see whether you have any comments as we go on, if so, we will discuss them.

B.A. Strashun:

Sergey Aleksandrovich, I would propose that the upper age limit be removed from Part 2 of Article 81. That does not exist at all in normal countries. Someone can be mentally decrepit at the age of 50 or even 25. Citizens here must decide whether a particular candidate suits them or not. Why, then, set an age qualification—it is absolutely absurd, is it not?

S.A. Filatov:

We have discussed this question for a very long time here. I think that if we do this now it will necessarily be associated with the present president. Do we want that or not? Do we need this now?

B.N. Topornin, director of the Russian Academy of Sciences Institute of State and Law:

Sergey Aleksandrovich, 65 is wrong. Why set a limit? We could have a 70-year-old genius come along, could we not?

S.A. Filatov:

If you insist, I can only put it to the vote.

A unanimous opinion? Anyone against? We remove it.

Ryabov Illness Delays Conference

LD2810132793 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By correspondents A. Pishchayev and T. Orlova from the Kremlin; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] I have just been told that our report from the Kremlin on the meeting of the Constitutional Conference State Chamber is now ready.

[Pishchayev] The Constitutional Conference is supposed to present the draft constitution to the president by 3 November. Time is passing, but all the public organizations involved seem unable to get their act together. Nothing, apparently, could stop the State Chamber from meeting today to debate amendments to the draft constitution and make its recommendations. However, at

the appointed time of 1100 this morning, the meeting did not open. Less than 30 minutes later a senior comrade appeared on the presidium and informed the impatient delegates and press that the conference opening had been delayed because the first speaker, Nikolay Ryabov, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, had suddenly been taken ill.

[Orlova] Ivanchenko, Ryabov's first deputy, was hastily summoned to take his place. He was expected to arrive at any moment. However, it took him almost 90 minutes to get here, even though the Kremlin is only 15 minutes' walk from the Arbat. One can only assume that the substitution was so unexpected that the new speaker needed time to prepare his answers to the many questions which the delegates want to ask.

Meanwhile, the hall began to empty. It was decided to postpone the meeting until 1430. The delegates have been asked to study the papers and take lunch.

Let us return to the documents which are supposed to be discussed today. The recommendations of the State Chamber are markedly different from the proposals put forward by the Public Chamber. The issue at stake is the participation of members of the government in the elections. The Public Chamber is categorically against this. But the State Chamber considers it quite acceptable. This is not surprising since there are members of the government in the State Chamber.

Republics' Sovereignty Viewed

LD2810190893 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1627 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—Russian constituent republics will have to abandon hope of sovereignty as this concept has been dropped from the draft new constitution as contradicting the idea of Russia's sovereignty.

Experts believe there cannot be two concepts of sovereignty—for the Russian Federation as a whole and for its constituent republics. They claim it should be applied only to the entire state, not its members. Mikhail Mityukov, chairman of the Legislative Proposals Committee, said on Thursday [28 October].

He said over 40 per cent of articles included in the draft constitution have undergone changes to reflect the proposals submitted by 51 members of the Federation, including 12 republics.

Mityukov said the working groups of the Constitutional Assembly has decided not to include the Federative Treaty into a new constitution. At the same time, it recognises it as a "reality" which together with a new constitution and other legislative acts will determine relations between Russian regions and the centre.

Although the draft stipulates that "the Russian Federation consists of equal members" it still draws a line between republics and regions. The former will have the right to have their own constitutions and citizenship, while the latter will be allowed only their own legislation and charter.

The draft also suggests that the prime minister should be appointed by the president with consent of the lower house of Russia's future parliament, the State Duma. Additionally, it says that the government should resign if a new president is elected.

Mityukov stressed that future parliamentarians should not combine their legislative activities with other jobs, adding, however, that "this situation should not be recorded in the constitution, but needs to be reflected in regulations for the transitional period."

The working group has also suggested a new impeachment procedure, according to which "the president of the Russian Federation can be impeached by the Council of the Federation only on the basis of the decision adopted by the State Duma accusing the president of state treason or committing other grave crime which need to be confirmed by the Supreme Court."

Mityukov pointed out that a decision on the president's impeachment should be adopted by the Supreme Court, but not the Constitutional Court since "other crimes" mean violations of the criminal code. The president can be impeached for violating the constitution only if his actions fall into the category "grave crimes."

More on Sovereignty Issue

LD2810210093 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1731 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—The State Chamber of Russia's Constitutional Assembly has called for restoring the concept of sovereignty for Russian constituent republics in the draft new constitution.

The concept was dropped as contradicting the idea of the sovereignty of Russia itself. Experts claimed there cannot be two concepts of sovereignty—for the Russian Federation as a whole and for its constituent republics—and insisted that it should be applied only to the entire state, not its members.

The chamber also suggested calling the charters of regions and territories constitutions. Chamber Coordinator Boris Zolotukhin said. According to the draft, Russian constituent republics will be allowed to have their own constitutions and citizenship, while regions will have only their own legislation and charters.

Over 40 per cent of articles included in the draft constitution have undergone changes to reflect the proposals submitted by regions and republics. The State Chamber approved the changes and amendments on the whole.

The final decision on proposed amendments will be made by the president as the initiator of the referendum on the draft new constitution, Zolotukhin said.

Public Chamber To Finalize Proposals

LD2910094093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0916 GMT 29 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Lyudmila Yermakova, Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow October 29 TASS—"The Public Chamber of the Constitutional Assembly is to finalise 37 articles of the draft of the new Russian constitution," its coordinator Anatoly Sobchak said, opening a session of the Chamber in the Kremlin today. He noted that the Chamber's recommendations would be forwarded to Sergey Filatov's working team and then submitted to the president, who has the right to either agree with them, or to put them to the judgement of a plenary meeting or the constitutional arbitrage committee. Only after that the draft constitution will be published for public discussion.

Sobchak added that a team of experts moved to include in the draft constitution a paragraph on the State Council, which is to be an advisory body under the president. He said the State Council could furnish conclusions on the bills to be submitted for approval to the Federal Assembly's State Duma. It is worth recalling that the idea of setting up a State Council under the president belongs to chief of the Federal Information Centre Mikhail Poltoranin, who suggested it during his recent tv interview.

The Public Chamber is now voting on each article of the draft constitution. It has already reached the third article, which qualifies actions to usurp state power as a "particularly grave crime." Filatov's working team moves to word it in the following way: "seizure of power or usurpation of power functions shall be persecuted in accordance with the federal law."

Poltoranin Warns Against Country's 'Bolshevization'

MK2810140593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 2

[Unattributed report under the "In Brief" column]

[Text] Moscow—There are people in the government who are interested in the bolshevization of the country. This was stated by Mikhail Poltoranin, director of the Federal Information Center. In the opinion of M. Poltoranin, these people are being helped in the bolshevization of the country by the absence of opposition in the country. Which is why M. Poltoranin suggests that, before the State Duma goes to work, a government council with control functions should be created under the president. The objective of creating the council is "to prevent the government from sliding toward bolshevization," the director of the Federal Information Center thinks.

Shumeyko Addresses Trade Union Congress

LD2810175393 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] The congress of Russia's independent trade unions, which opened today in Moscow, was addressed by First Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Shumeyko.

He paid particular attention to the work of the Russian tripartite commission for regulating social and labor relations, of which he is the coordinator. According to RIA, Shumeyko proposed that the economic, labor, and social protection ministers be included in the commission to boost the effectiveness of its work.

The deputy prime minister thinks that, in order to make the commission's activities easier, it is also necessary to unify trade unions on an all-Russia scale.

Manilov Appointed Deputy Secretary of Security Council

LD2810210493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1411 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—Under an instruction from Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Valeriy Manilov was on Wednesday appointed deputy secretary of the Russian Federation Security Council. This was announced by the president's press service today.

Lieutenant General Valeriy Manilov, 53, was press secretary of the commander in chief of the CIS Combined Armed Forces, and from July of this year assistant secretary of the Russian Federation Security Council

Communist Groups Plan 7 Nov Rally

LD2810211293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1810 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] A number of pro-communist groups in Moscow, including the Union of Communists, the Marxist Platform and the Moscow Workers' Union have appealed to the Yeltsin administration and Mayor of Moscow to be allowed to hold a civic parade and a rally on Red Square on November 7th. They hope to be able to gather an estimated 70,000 people.

No permission has yet been granted but the city administration offered the organizers to hold a rally outside Moscow's central stadium.

Leader of the Russian Communist Party Anatoliy Kryuchkov speaking on Thursday said "the communists are not conniving any plans to have their own back" for their defeat early this month. "We just want to be able to celebrate the anniversary of Russia's October Revolution of 1917 and air our own views on the situation in the country," he said. In the event of a refusal, the communists are ready to gather their supporters outside Moscow, Kryuchkov said.

Interior Minister Promises Measures Against Mass Actions*LD2810185093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1810 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Vladimir Gondusov and Yuriy Sizov]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct—Russian internal affairs bodies have information about possible attempts to destabilize the situation in the country on 7 November [anniversary of 1917 Bolshevik Revolution]. This was stated by Viktor Yerin, Russian minister of internal affairs, at a meeting with central news media chiefs.

The minister warned that "if anyone attempts to conduct unauthorized events of a mass nature that threaten people's safety, appropriate measures will be taken."

Viktor Yerin noted in particular that the forces of law and order should be free from all types of political and party influences. "No movements or blocs, of which there are many dozens in the country, should try to bring the internal affairs bodies onto their side," the minister stressed.

Interior Minister Assesses Crime Data*LD2810231893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2033 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Over 9 months of this year the growth in crime in Russia has amounted to 2.2 percent, Russian Interior Minister Viktor Yerin announced at a press conference in Moscow on Thursday [28 October]. In his opinion, this reflects a halt to the recent growth in crime and that the situation on the whole is under control. The minister also pointed out that the situation with investigations into crimes and their disclosure had been improved.

Yerin announced that more than 2,500 leaders and members of criminal groups had been arrested over the last 6 months by law enforcement officers.

However, according to the ministry's experts, approximately 150 large criminal organisations and more than 300 criminal groups which "represent a serious threat for society" are carrying out their activities in Russia.

The minister emphasized that, according to experts, up to 40,000 businesses in Russia were connected with these criminal groups.

Prosecutor General Comments on 'Crime Wave'*MK2810114593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 1*

[RIA report under the "In Brief" column: "Kazannik on Prosecutor's Office Weakness"]

[Text] "The transition to new forms of legal procedure in Russia is taking place in an extremely complex crime

situation," Aleksey Kazannik, Russian Federation prosecutor general, said at a conference on the question of trial by jury. In his words, Russia "is being swept by a crime wave." During nine months of this year 2.51 million crimes were committed in the country—much more than during the same period last year. Judging by the number of premeditated murders, Kazannik remarked, the crime rate is not declining while the cited figures "are only the tip of an iceberg two thirds of which are covered by water." Considering its total number of personnel, the prosecutor's office is in a position to complete no more than 50 percent of bills of indictments in the already investigated cases.

Judicial Reform To Include Return of Jury Trials*LD2810191893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1647 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Artyushin]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—The process of Russia's return to jury trials, which had been introduced in 1864 and abolished after the 1917 October Revolution, will be of a stage-by-stage nature, Sergey Pashin, chief of the judicial reform department of the State Legal Board, said here on Thursday [28 October] at a press conference dealing with the results of an interregional meeting on the re-introduction of jury trials in Russia.

Pashin said jury trials will begin functioning from November 1 in Russia's five areas—in Moscow, Ivanovo, Ryazan and Saratov regions and in Stavropol territory—to be followed from the beginning of next year by Altai and Krasnodar territories, Rostov and Ulyanovsk regions.

Preparations for the re-introduction of jury trials are proceeding satisfactorily. Problems connected with financing the process have been practically resolved, with about 1,500 million roubles assigned for these purposes. More than 400 judges have already undergone advanced training and are prepared to work under new conditions, Pashin said.

The first jury trial may be held at the end of November or early in December this year, Pashin pointed out.

Rutskoy Hospitalized With High Blood Pressure*LD2910072093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0707 GMT 29 Oct 93*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Nechayev]

[Text] Moscow October 29 TASS—Former Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy, who was arrested after the opposition armed rebellion in Moscow and placed in the Lefortovo investigation prison, was hospitalised on Wednesday [27 October] because of high blood pressure.

"There is no danger for his life", spokesman of the Security Ministry Sergey Vasilyev told TASS on Friday [29 October], adding that Rutskoy has to stay in bed for some time.

He said that doctors of the Lefortovo Prison which belongs to the Security Ministry were the first to examine Rutskoy and called an ambulance which delivered the former vice-president to the hospital of the Security Ministry.

Rutskoy is under constant medical observation and his ward is guarded, he added.

Media Issues

Officials Debate Government Takeover of RTV-Parliament Facilities

Poltoranin Denies Split

LD2810223893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 28 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] In an interview today with "Vesti," Mikhail Poltoranin claimed that the rumors of a split between presidential and government ranks were exaggerated.

[Correspondent M. Lilleviali] We have come along to see Mikhail Poltoranin, head of the Federal Information Center, because of a wish on our part to sort out the rumpus that has arisen over the recent resolution of the Council of Ministers on measures to improve information back-up for the activities of the government. Under this resolution, which was signed by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, the technical facilities previously belonging to parliamentary radio and television are being transferred to the ownership of the Council of Ministers' press service, which has been expanded to 100 people. First, Vyacheslav Kostikov, the presidential press secretary, and then a number of the central newspapers issued statements expressing their concern over the apparent tendency to monopolize the mass media. Has the RTV-Parliament equipment not merely served as a kind of pretext for the start of open confrontation between presidential and government structures?

[Begin Poltoranin recording] This does not signify any kind of split, nor does it signify total unity. [end recording]

[Lilleviali] As for the RTV-Parliament technical facilities, they are in Mikhail Poltoranin's view needed by the government press service on the threshold of the election campaign in order to:

[Begin Poltoranin recording] Film various members of the government and create their image. That is to say, journalists cannot be trusted to film one in the right way

and from the right angle, but we ourselves will do the filming in the best possible way and then hand it on. [end recording]

[Lilleviali] Be that as it may, the danger of turning "Parliamentary Hour" on television into "Government Hour" does definitely exist in Poltoranin's view. The RTV-Parliament television facilities are now the property of the government's press service, and the talk about wedges being driven between the president and the government continues.

Yeltsin Aide Clarifies Statement

LD2810210593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1810 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] The spokesman for the Russian president, Vyacheslav Kostikov, has rejected as groundless the allegations by some of the mass media that there are political motivations behind his statement on the parliamentary radio and TV subordinating itself to the government.

In an interview to Interfax, Kostikov said that the president and the government have no disagreements on the political and economic aspects of the reform. Both the president and the prime minister personify the democratic orientation of the reforms.

As to the reason for my statement, it is a matter of ethics, said the spokesman.

Filatov Displeased With Shumeyko-Poltoranin Dispute

LD2810211593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1810 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Sergey Filatov, president's chief of staff, expressed his "very dim view" of the sharp dispute between First Vice Premier and Press and Information Minister Vladimir Shumeyko and head of the Federal Information Center Mikhail Poltoranin.

Answering Interfax questions Thursday [28 October], Filatov said that such differences should not spill over into the mass media not only during an electoral campaign but at other times as well. This kind of quarrel between members of one electoral bloc "may have a detrimental effect on election results," Filatov thinks.

"I will do my utmost to have this infighting stopped," he said.

In his view, President Yeltsin does not take sides with neither man personally. "What is to be decided is whether the center or the ministry should be very strong," he explained.

"There are no ideological differences in the government, there are only different approaches to certain problems," Filatov emphasized. "A decision should be made whether reconciling them in public is indeed better than in the quiet of offices," he said.

Shumeyko Defends Censorship Measures*PM2810135393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 2*

[Vasiliy Kononenko report under the "Commentaries and Events" rubric: "V. Shumeyko: Government Has No Intention of Gagging the Press"]

[Text] First Vice Premier V. Shumeyko opened his 27 October press conference, the latest in the series of regular press conferences he holds as the government member responsible for relations with the mass media, with a sharp rebuke of M. Poltoranin for his remark about the unfounded introduction of press censorship, to which he allegedly objected. In this connection, V. Shumeyko declared that the basis for adopting this decision was the president's edict on urgent measures to back up the state of emergency regime in the city of Moscow signed at 0500 hours on 4 October this year at 0500 hours, in other words two and a half hours before the storming of the White House began. Point 8 of this edict reads: "Beginning 4 October 1993, and for the duration of the state of emergency, the Ministry of the Press, in association with the law enforcement organs, must implement the measures envisaged in Point 'b' of Article 23 of the Law on the State of Emergency."

It is well known that this article provides for the introduction of restrictions on the freedom of the press and other mass media, specifically by means of preliminary censorship.

In the words of V. Shumeyko, the decision in question, which was adopted by the president, was wholly justified insofar as it was impossible to allow any kind of calls for the overthrow of the existing authorities in the press prior to the events which took place 5 October. However, censorship was not actually introduced. We, V. Shumeyko said, called the chief editors of newspapers and other mass media sources together 6 October and decided that it would be better if they introduced self-censorship. Ultimately, they realized what was happening.

As for the ban on PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, and DEN, V. Shumeyko cited excerpts from a letter sent to him by General Prosecutor Kazannik requesting a report on the measures taken by the Ministry of the Press in respect of newspapers which had encouraged the events of 3-4 October, and demanding the submission of the relevant documents.

"The Law on the Press was not violated," the first vice premier stressed.

"Nobody closed these newspapers down. As for their chief editors' being relieved of their duties, the basis for these actions was provided by the president's edict and by the actions of these officials, which presuppose their personal responsibility for direct calls to mutiny. If they sue and the court finds in their favor," V. Shumeyko said, "they will be reinstated." As for renaming the aforementioned newspapers, the issue here, in the first

vice-premier's words, is merely one of verbal negotiations with unemployed representatives of the journalists' collectives; they have been offered various options for resuming the publication of various newspapers.

During the press conference, the first vice premier did not remain silent on the topic of the upcoming parliamentary elections. In answer to a question about his view of the kind of government that will emerge if "Russia's Choice" were to win, V. Shumeyko declared: "We hope that the majority of deputies will agree with the need for continuity and that they will nominate candidates for the posts of prime minister and key government members who are capable of continuing the reform." Answering a question from IZVESTIYA's correspondent on why his name was removed from the "Russia's Choice" list of candidates for the elections, V. Shumeyko declared that he does not wish to stand for election to the State Duma—"I am not interested in that." As for the Federation Council: "We'll see." At the same time he let it be understood that he will not leave "Russia's Choice," and he will work together with Gaydar for reforms.

What are V. Shumeyko's forecasts regarding the results of the upcoming parliamentary elections? Journalists asked the vice premier about this repeatedly. He evaded a direct answer, but admitted that if the communist movement were to form a bloc with part of the agrarian movement and other forces, then this bloc may become a serious rival of the democratic movement. In the vice premier's words, the first indications of the deployment of forces will be apparent once signatures in support of the party lists have been collected, although, he said, commercial structures paying collectors 100 rubles per vote have already appeared.

Official Comments on Banned Papers, Election Coverage*LD2810143593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1148 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tough measures will be applied to a television company or any other media source for discrimination against an election candidate. Russia's Press Ministry intends to check that all media sources scrupulously abide by the law and put radio, television facilities and the press within the reach of all election candidates. This was declared in an interview with Interfax on Thursday [28 October] by the First Deputy Press Minister David Tsa-briya.

He made it clear that fascist newspapers would never reappear in Russia. He put their number at 15 and singled out among them such papers as Den (day) and K Toporu (grab an axe). Tsa-briya reported that with regard to these publications the Ministry had already sent appropriate materials to the Prosecutor General's Office, and after their study by legal experts these materials would be referred to court for a final verdict on these newspapers.

As the editorial staff of the daily PRAVDA appointed a new editor-in-chief on Wednesday, the newspaper may reappear any time, Tsabria noted.

As for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, it will not appear until its staff elects a new editor-in-chief. "This demand of the Press Ministry remains in effect," Tsabria remarked.

Journalists Oppose Efforts To Place Press Under 'State Control'

LD2810215293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2115 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 29 TASS—"The latest events witness to an attempt by power structures to place the press back under strict state control and to monopolize it", says a joint press release by the Russian and Moscow journalists' unions, the Committee for Freedom of Speech and Journalists' Rights, the Foundation for Support of Openness and the Club of Editors-in-Chief.

The attempted introduction of preliminary censorship, the ban on some opposition newspapers and removal of their editors-in-chief can also be regarded as a breach of law, the authors of the statement stressed. They noted that no assessment had been yet given to the behaviour of law-enforcement officers who allowed illegal actions with respect to journalists during the hardline mutiny in Moscow.

Journalists flatly object to the decision to change the orientation of the former TV programme "Parliamentary Hour", the document says. They are also greatly concerned over the fate of the independent television network NTV. The statement cited the daily "ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA" as an example of efforts by state to get hold of the mass media.

The authors of the document believe the government's attitude towards the press was also revealed by the fact that none of its senior officials, including the press and information minister, attended the October 26 press conference arranged by the Russian and Moscow journalists' unions and mass media editors-in-chief to voice newsmen's claims and concrete proposals.

Journalists are also concerned over the undermined economic basis of the mass media which are reduced to "a humiliating state of beggars". They said "the concrete proposals by the journalists' union approved by the country's leaders have been blocked for several months by the government and presidential staffs. Numerous claims by the latter that he is a guarantor of the freedom of speech are, unfortunately, not backed by actual moves".

Throughout all dramatic changes of the recent years, the press proved its consistent adherence to the ideals of freedom and democracy. "We do not seek a special treatment, but we insist and demand that we be given an opportunity to get about our business", the statement stressed.

New Editor of PRAVDA Interviewed

LD2810220193 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] The name of a new editor in chief of the newspaper PRAVDA was announced on Thursday. True, it is not very new. The staff of the newspaper has elected as their leader Viktor Linnik, who previously worked as deputy editor in chief. We talked with him by telephone.

[Begin Linnik recording] It will be a newspaper of civilized opposition. It will be a newspaper defending the principles of social justice and human rights in their entirety—political, economic, and social rights. In my view, it will be a newspaper without which the readers will not be able to fully understand our life, and without it Russia's information expanse will be incomplete.

We may retain the name [PRAVDA], or so Vladimir Shumeyko told me by telephone. There are no obstacles. Subscriptions to the newspaper are being resumed—the Press Ministry has issued the relevant instruction. [end recording]

[Announcer] Incidentally, Gennadiy Seleznev, the former editor in chief, will remain on the newspaper. So it is up to you to judge what has changed.

Election Issues

Groups Contesting Elections Detailed

PM2810135593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Russia Faces Choice": "Contenders for Seats in New Parliament. The Political Blocs and Organizations Taking Part in the Elections 12 December 1993"]

[Text] Each day brings us reports of more and more organizations bidding to take part in the election race. Public interest in the event scheduled for 12 December is also increasing markedly. Today IZVESTIYA publishes a list of the main contenders for seats in the new Russian parliament in order to help readers to assess the disposition of political forces on the eve of the election battle.

It should be remembered that the situation continues to remain extremely fluid, and all the indications are that it is still too soon to draw final conclusions about the affiliation of particular political figures with particular blocs and parties. So we are publishing information on the "situation as of" 27 October, as the saying goes.

"Russia's Choice" Bloc

The sociopolitical bloc includes the "Democratic Russia" movement, the recently approved "Russia's Choice" movement, AKKOR [Association of Peasant Farms and Agricultural Cooperatives], the Peasant Party of Russia, the "Living Ring" union, the Association of

Privatized and Private Enterprises, "Shield" (N. Moskovchenko), the Democratic Initiative Party (P. Bunich), which joined at the last moment, and a whole series of other organizations. The congress held 16-17 October approved the following approach: the three leaders plus 11 candidates for the federal list, plus five candidates named by Bloc Chairman Ye. Gaydar.

Leaders: Ye. Gaydar, S. Kovalev, E. Pamfilova.

The 11 candidates on the list after the leaders (in order of popularity) are: A. Chubays, A. Kozyrev, B. Fedorov, D. Volkogonov, S. Filatov, A. Yemelyanov, M. Poltoranin, P. Bunich, A. Makarov, G. Burbulis, and B. Zolotukhin. (The last three candidates joined the list after V. Shumeyko decided to run for the Federation Council and gave up his place to S. Kovalev, who headed the list of 11, and P. Filippov and Yu. Chernichenko disappeared from the list for the same reason.)

The five candidates named by Ye. Gaydar are: P. Aven, A. Golovnov, Yu. Gusman, A. Murashev, and S. Yushenkov.

A number of well known politicians have come in via the regional lists, in particular V. Selyunin, N. Vorontsov, and A. Nuykin (from Moscow), G. Yakunin (from Moscow Oblast), and B. Denisenko (from Kemerovo Oblast).

In all there are 234 candidates on the list.

Party of Russian Unity and Accord (PRUA)

Leaders: S. Shakhrai, R. Abdulatipov, A. Shokhin, O. Soskovets, K. Zatulini.

Representatives of the "Entrepreneurs for a New Russia" association (K. Zatulini) are running as part of the PRUA lists.

It has been announced that V. Chernomyrdin supports the party.

The federal list is to consist of 10-15 people (the names will be decided by the evening of 25 October). In addition, regional lists are being prepared.

Problems: The party is based mainly on state structures and its regional organizations (there are now 48 of them) as yet have few ordinary members.

Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms (RMDR)

Agreement has been reached that the RMDR will form a bloc (as the umbrella organization) with a number of independent trade unions: the Independent Miners Union of Russia (A. Sergeyev) and the Russian Seamen's Union (V. Nekrasov). Moreover, the Russian Free Labor Party (I. Kivelidi) will nominate its candidates to the RMDR list.

The RMDR may garner around 10 percent of the votes in the elections.

Leaders ("head" of the list): A. Sobchak, S. Fedorov, O. Basilashvili. Top ten: I. Kivelidi (Russian Free Labor

Party), S. Sharipov (Independent Miners Union), A. Braginskiy, A.N. Yakovlev, N. Shmelev, S. Krasavchenko, Ye. Shaposhnikov, Ye. Kozhokin (Russian Free Labor Party), O. Gazmanov, A. Kiselev (the list is being agreed).

Problems: RMDR branches do not operate in all regions of Russia. There is also a problem with filling the main part of the federal list with candidates capable of working in a professional parliament.

Chances: Even without forming a bloc with any organizations, the RMDR has a real chance of collecting 100,000 signatures.

The "Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin" Electoral Bloc

The bloc is based on G. Yavlinskiy's "EPI-tsentr" [Economic and Political Research Center], the Republican Party of the Russian Federation [RPRF] (V. Lysenko, V. Shostakovskiy), the Social Democratic Party of Russia (A. Golov), and the Russian Christian Democratic Union (V. Borshchev). A number of free trade unions and other nonpolitical organizations may join it. G. Yavlinskiy declares that the government's course, adopted back under Ye. Gaydar, will not ensure the successful implementation of reforms. The bloc may muster 8-12 percent of the votes in the elections.

Leaders: G. Yavlinskiy, Yu. Boldyrev, V. Lukin.

There are 212 candidates on the bloc's list, 36 of them on the federal list, 26 from Moscow, and the remainder on regional lists.

The federal list includes: V. Sheynis, V. Lysenko, V. Shostakovskiy, I. Yakovenko, A. Golov.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission.

Problems: In effect it was only with the entry of the RPRF into the bloc that it had the people required to collect signatures and mobilize support, since "EPI-tsentr" is merely a think tank and the Social Democratic Party of Russia and Russian Christian Democratic Union are very small parties. However, despite the RPRF leadership's decision to join the bloc, many regional organizations will remain within "Russia's Choice," which could create considerable difficulties for the bloc with G. Yavlinskiy as its leader.

Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR)

The LDPR was the first party to register its federal list, which contains 164 candidates.

The LDPR could collect up to 7 percent of the vote in the elections.

Leaders: V. Zhirinovskiy, V. Kobelev, V. Marychev.

Chances: The party can collect 100,000 signatures, primarily among marginal strata of society.

The Civic Union "For Stability, Justice, and Progress"

The election bloc is based on the organizations of: Civic Union, the All-Russia "Renewal" Union (A. Vladislavlev), the Russian Social Democratic Center (O. Rummyantsev), the Russian Youth Union (V. Lashchevskiy), and the Free Russia youth movement (O. Sokolov). In reality activists of the FRPP ["Free Russia" People's Party] and "Smena-New Politics" may take part in the bloc's activity ahead of the elections. The Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (A. Volskiy) occupies a central place in the bloc. The Association of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, the RSFSR Timber Sector Workers Union, the RSFSR Construction and Construction Materials Industry Workers Union, and the "War Veterans for Peace" movement have also joined...

Leaders: A. Volskiy, N. Bekh, A. Vladislavlev. The list also includes A. Dolgolaptev, O. Rummyantsev, A. Tsipko, P. Voshchanov, V. Lipitskiy, N. Gonchar, V. Lashchevskiy, and Iosif Kobzon.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission. It includes 270 candidates.

Problems: The defeat of the stance that Civic Union organizations upheld ahead of the events of 3-4 October 1993. Internal discord in the bloc is also a problem, since a number of young politicians do not trust A. Volskiy.

Chances: The bloc can collect 100,000 signatures.

The "Fatherland" Election Alliance (Bloc of Left-Wing Forces)

This bloc is based on the Socialist Party of the Working People (SPWP) headed by L. Vartazarova and G. Sklyar. The bloc includes the Union for the Revival of Russia (D. Rogozin), the Russian Union of Labor Collectives (A. Bobrovskiy), the Union of Cossacks of Russia (A. Martynov), the Womens League, and the Union of Oil Industry Workers. The list will also include representatives of the Labor Party (B. Kargalitskiy), the "New Left" party (A. Abramovich), and the Congress of Left-Wing Democratic Forces (A. Buzgalin).

Leaders: V. Stepanov (chairman of the Karelian Supreme Soviet), L. Vartazarova, V. Naumov (Union of Cossacks of Russia). The list also includes R. Medvedev, A. Denisov, V. Bondarchuk, and D. Rogozin.

Note: The fact that communist organizations are not taking part in the elections based on the proportional system will make the bloc of left-wing forces a real alternative to the democratic blocs and organizations.

Chances: The bloc of left-wing forces has a real chance of collecting 100,000 signatures.

Communist Party of the Russian Federation

The lifting of the suspension of the activity of the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation] immediately confronted the party with the question of participation in the elections. It decided to take part. It may set up an election bloc, possibly within the framework of the old "Russian Unity" parliamentary coalition. The CPRF will be able to surmount the 5-percent barrier.

Leaders: G. Zyuganov, V. Koptug (vice president of the Russian Academy of Sciences), V. Sevastyanov, I. Rybkin, Yu. Slobodkin, V. Kuptsov.

Problems: The change in public opinion regarding communist forces since the events of 3-4 October 1993, and also the definite split in the party's ranks brought about by this.

Chances: The CPRF can collect the required 100,000 signatures.

Agrarian Party of Russia

Leaders: M. Lapshin, A. Zaveryukha, V. Shcherbak (deputy minister of agriculture). The list also includes V. Isakov (former coordinator of the "Russian Unity" parliamentary bloc) and Valentin Rasputin.

One of the main planks of its election program is preventing the buying and selling of land.

Its list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission.

Note: The party may be used by communists as a means of attempting to get into the Federal Assembly.

Chances: The Agrarian Party can ensure the collection of 100,000 signatures.

The "New Russia" Bloc

The bloc includes the People's Party of Russia (T. Gdlyan), the Russian Social Liberal Party (V. Filin), the Christian Democratic Union (A. Ogorodnikov), the Bourgeois Democratic Party (Ye. Butov), the "Assembly" Public Association of Servicemen's Organizations of Russia (V. Sadovnik), and the "Young Russia" Union (D. Glinskiy). The key factor is the inclusion in the bloc of the Mining and Metallurgical Industry Workers Union (B. Misnik), which has 2.3 million members.

Leaders: T. Gdlyan, N. Ivanov, M. Bocharov.

There are 207 candidates on the list.

Problems: Not enough well known names to form the "head" of the list, and not enough professionals to form the main part of the list.

Chances: There is quite a good likelihood that "New Russia" will muster the required 100,000 signatures.

Democratic Party of Russia (DPR)

Leaders: N. Travkin, S. Govorukhin, O. Bogomolov. Former Ministers N. Fedorov and A. Titkin have also agreed to head the list.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission. It contains 92 candidates.

Problems: The long-standing split in the DPR, the existence of a considerable number of party members who are unhappy with Travkin's politics, and the traditional cooperation of a number of DPR regional organizations with the regional structures of "Democratic Russia," and now "Russia's Choice."

Chances: The DPR can muster 100,000 signatures.

Association of Independent Professionals

The Association of Independent Professionals sociopolitical association has been set up by democrats who want as many professionals—lawyers and economists—to get into the Federal Assembly as possible. The constituent conference was held 19 October. The association, according to P. Filippov, has been promised financial and organizational support from a number of investment funds and commercial organizations. It is help from the regional branches of a number of investment funds in setting up regional structures that may ensure the creation of an organization which the Justice Ministry will have to recognize as having the right to independent participation in the elections. The association may collect the votes of those voters who trust professionals (approximately 3-5 percent).

Leaders: P. Filippov, A. Nechayev, M. Kharshan.

On the list: V. Savitskiy, P. Mostovoy, A. Lifshits, Ye. Yasin, V. Varov.

Problems: Little time before the elections, and also the fact that the names on the list are not sufficiently widely known.

Chances: The association has chances of gathering 100,000 signatures.

The "August" Right-Wing Liberal Bloc

There have been attempts by Borovoy to set up the "August" bloc, but only the Economic Freedom Party [EFP] (K. Borovoy) and the Party of Constitutional Democrats [PCD] (V. Zolotarev) have joined.

Leaders: K. Borovoy, V. Zolotarev.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission.

Problems: The main problem is the comparatively small size of the EFP and the small size of the PCD.

Chances: The bloc will be able to collect 100,000 signatures, mostly thanks to the fact that the EFP has the necessary financial resources.

Russian Christian Democratic Party (RCDP)

Leaders: A. Chuyev (RCDP leader), A. Pchelintsev (leader of "Military Christians"), A. Tripolskiy (representative of the Union of Invalids of Russia).

Problems: The RCDP has comparatively few members, around 2,500. At the same time thanks to financial support from related parties in West Europe the RCDP now has the money to fight the election campaign. However, the main problem is the virtually unknown names at the "head" of the list.

Chances: The RCDP may muster the required 100,000 signatures.

The "Women of Russia" Association

The election bloc, which also sets itself broader tasks (it is registered as the "Women of Russia" political movement) includes the Union of Women of Russia (A. Fedulova), the Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Russia (G. Zharikova), and the Navy Womens Union (L. Ambartsumova). The main aim is to nominate women and get them into the State Duma.

The association is "centrist" in orientation, in the spirit of Civic Union, and even pro-socialist (A. Fedulova).

Leaders: A. Fedulova, Ye. Lakhova, N. Gundareva.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission. Forty-four candidates have been nominated.

Problems: The undeveloped structure of the bloc's member organizations, the low activeness of the bulk of members.

Chances: "Women of Russia" has little chance of succeeding in gathering 100,000 signatures.

The Russian All-National Union (RANU)

Leaders: S. Baburin, S. Goryacheva, N. Pavlov, V. Ganichev, V. Varennikov, V. Belov.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission. It contains 225 candidates.

Problems: Discord among the diehard opposition camp, which may be overcome for the sake of success in the elections.

Chances: RANU can gather 100,000 signatures.

Conservative Party of Russia

Leader: K. Ubozhko.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission. One hundred and seventeen candidates have been nominated.

Russian Christian Democratic Movement (RCDM)

Leaders: Yu. Vlasov, V. Aksyuchits, T. Ivanova (former presenter of RTV "Parliament").

The "Party of Consolidation" Electoral Alliance

A. Tikhonov, chairman of the Party of Consolidation, which forms the foundation of the alliance, was close to R. Khasbulatov.

Leaders: V. Filippov (general director of the "Nefteot-dacha" RMNTK [expansion unknown]), V. Neverov (chairman of the board of directors of the "Germes" concern), A. Tikhonov.

The list of 75 candidates has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission.

National Republican Party of Russia

It is pro-fascist in orientation.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission.

Leader: Nikolay Lysenko.

Constitutional Democratic Party (People's Freedom Party)

Leaders: M. Astafyev (leader of the CDP-PFP [Constitutional Democratic Party-People's Freedom Party]), I. Shafarevich, A. Nevzorov.

The list contains 154 candidates, there are 20 names in the federal section, and the regional section is represented by 134 candidates from 32 regions of Russia. The list includes well known "patriots" Yu. Bondarev, P. Proskurin, and Yu. Sidorenko. The list contains Aleksandr Torshin, a staffer of the government apparatus.

The list has been registered by the Central Electoral Commission.

Commission Approves 25 Groups To Collect Signatures

LD2810152993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1040 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct—The Party of Russian Unity and Accord ("Shakhray's Party") was today issued a certified copy of its list of candidates for elections to the State Duma from across the Federation at the Central Electoral Commission. The document gives this electoral association the right to collect voters' signatures in order to be able to register its list of candidates and continue the pre-election marathon, which will only be possible if the party collects no less than 100,000 Russian citizens' signatures before 7 November.

The other major electoral association, the Russian Democratic Reform Movement (Gavriil Popov, Anatoliy Sobchak), has not yet submitted to the Central Electoral Commission the list of its candidates from the Federation; at least, such was the situation this morning. There is now very little time left for collecting voters' signatures

and those political parties and pre-election blocs which got off to a bad start in the "signature campaign" risk not being able to get the required number of Russian citizens' signatures in time.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent has reported that, this morning at the Central Electoral Commission, 25 electoral associations received the right to collect the signatures of Russian citizens.

Groups Begin Collecting Signatures

LD2810214193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1955 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Ivanova]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—Parties and electoral associations have begun to collect signatures of constituents at an essential stage of the electoral campaign: those of them who will collect 100,000 signatures in their support will be able to qualify for the electoral marathon.

As of Thursday [28 October], the Central Electoral Commission registered the tickets of 25 parties and election associations. Russia's choice bloc, headed by First Vice-Premier Yegor Gaydar, on Thursday began collecting the signatures of supporters.

It has become known that during the coming weekend, Russia's Choice intends to launch a mass signature-collecting drive on Vasilievskiy Slope near the Kremlin walls.

The Party of Russian Unity and Accord ("Shakhray party") has also begun to collect signatures. As far as the Russian Democratic Reform Movement (headed by Gavriil Popov, and Anatoliy Sobchak) is concerned, it got stalled at the start of the election campaign. On Thursday morning the DRM did not yet submit its ticket to the Central Electoral Commission.

Konstantin Borovoy, leader of the Economic Freedom Party, believes that within two weeks the August Bloc, which also includes the Constitutional Democrats, "will collect 300,000 signatures, not just 100,000 ones". Already now the August Bloc has collected 27,000 signatures.

The voters themselves do not wish treat the elections to the State Duma (council) thoughtlessly. Like politicians, they seek to combine efforts.

In Novosibirsk, a Siberian forum association of voters, instituted by researchers, journalists and political scientists, has begun to function. The association intends to scrutinize the election platforms of contenders for the Duma seats and acquaint the public at large with the findings.

In Kuzbass, a regional centre for the promotion of elections has been set up on an instruction from the local administration. Due to the centre's efforts, 1,596 precinct commissions, united into four districts, have begun to function.

In Chelyabinsk, a conference on the subject "election technology and political parties" is being held by specialists of the Washington-based National Democratic Institute of International Relations. They are acquainting representatives of democratic parties and movements of the southern Urals with a "world technology to win elections" and the civilized conduct of an election campaign.

This measure is apparently relevant. On Thursday Yegor Gaydar voiced concern over the public opinion television programme broadcast on the Ostankino channel on Wednesday. On the strength of a telephone opinion poll of viewers, the leader of Russia's Choice had polled 45 per cent of supporters while 38 per cent gave preference to Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the communists of Russia. In this contest Gaydar, in an ITAR-TASS interview, cautioned the democrats against judging by personality ambitions and advised them to unite into coalitions, particularly in districts where the plurality system of voting would be applied (with a candidate being elected if he has polled more votes than the next standing candidate).

Meanwhile, a boycott of the forthcoming elections was announced at a press conference on Thursday by the leaders of a number of opposition parties and movements—the Russian Party of Communists, the Union of Communists, the Russian Communist Workers Party, the Union of Communist Parties—the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. They suggested that their supporters "vote absolutely against all candidates."

Communist Parties Announce Boycott of Elections

LD2810192293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1455
GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Five Communist parties in Russia, excluding the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (lead by Gennadiy Zyuganov), have refused to take part in the December parliamentary elections and have appealed to the people to boycott what they described as the humiliation of democracy and common sense. In an address to the people of Russia at a news conference in Moscow on Thursday [28 October], the Russian Party of Communists, the Union of Communists, the Russian Communist Workers Party, the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, and the Leninist Platform of the Russian Communist Party called on them to prevent the bogus elections and the referendum by conducting campaigns of civil disobedience, active protests, and public meetings.

Answering a question from Interfax, the leader of the Russian Communist party, Anatoliy Kryuchkov, said that actions by Communists will be "adequate" to the measures by the government. "We shall use public meetings, demonstrations, and political strikes, if need be, in response to actions by the opposite side," he said.

Explaining the boycott of the elections, a member of the leadership of the Russian Communist Workers Party, Richard Kosolapov, said that the participation of Communists would attach a legal character "to the burial of

Soviet power and the driving in of the stake into its grave." At the same time, the communist parties are not giving up the political struggle during the election campaign, so that they may disclose the true meaning of the electoral farce.

PRES Submits Candidate List, Outlines Positions

MK2810133393 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in
Russian 28 Oct 93 p 1

[Vera Kuznetsova report under the "Elections" rubric: "Shakhray's Bloc Presents Its List to the Central Electoral Commission on the Day of the Restoration of the Jury"]

[Text] Yesterday, Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray with his comrades—Aleksandr Shokhin and Konstantin Zatulin, who represents the "Entrepreneurs for a New Russia" association, launched their bloc's election campaign. According to Shakhray, this came on a day when local self-government reform was announced and the institution of the jury was restored.

On that same day, Shakhray submitted a PRES [Party for Russian Unity and Accord] electoral list, including over 200 names, to the Central Electoral Commission. Apart from the aforementioned politicians, the list includes Ramazan Abdulatipov (who is running for Council of the Federation), Sergey Stankevich (he will top the list of the Moscow branch), and Anatoliy Sliva (deputy chief of the State Legal Administration).

According to Shakhray, there will be only between 15 and 18 candidates from the center, the other slots being reserved for the regions. Shakhray, however, did not name any of the republican leaders. He promised, though, that the "grass-roots activists" who would top the lists would be people with well-known names. The bloc expects to win one-third of seats at the State Duma.

All three leaders of the bloc were reserved in their assessments of their rivals at yesterday's press conference at the House of Friendship. The only dig they afforded themselves was the reference to the Foreign Ministry's refusal (aimed at Kozyrev) and the House of the Russian Press (Yushenkov) to allow Shakhray and his comrades to hold the press conference in their buildings. Shakhray remarked, however, that the bloc would not boast about presidential "patronage," as some parties do. Shokhin added that they would not use the elections in order "to launch a critical campaign against the government."

As for "Russia's Choice", Shakhray did not accept the term "opposition" offered for his bloc by the "Choice," noting only: "We have different social functions and different niches... In other areas we have many things in common." Commenting on relations with "Russia's Choice," Aleksandr Shokhin said: "Neither Gaydar, nor Fedorov, nor Chubays will be able to say that we (Shakhray and Shokhin), unlike them, are 'bad' reformers."

Shakhray and his comrades are opposed in principle to joining any large blocs. The PRES leader attributed this not only to the difference in programs, but also to party discipline. That is, Shakhray's party will be different from the others in that it will be absolutely predictable for the voters and all its members will vote at the State Duma "as one." As for majority-type districts, the bloc leaders do not rule out talks with other political parties on the subject.

Shakhray's party, whose objective is "to maintain the state and a political dialogue of the regions," has from the outset of the election campaign found itself in a situation where it will either have to make clear its stance or quit the race. At present, Sergey Shakhray has effectively taken over the place of a politician who is ready for and capable of compromising with the Federation components. This place was made vacant by none other than Boris Yeltsin.

It was the Russian president who, before the events of 3 and 4 October, conducted dialogue and, at times, a political bargaining with the regions. Republic leaders were the ones who were particularly favored by the president. It was to them that the president promised "as much sovereignty as they can eat" and the Federation Treaty as an integral part of the new Russian Federation Constitution.

Presently, there is no such term as the republics' sovereignty in the draft drawn up by the Constitutional Conference's working group. The Federation Treaty will evidently not be present in the final version, either. What will the PRES do in this situation, as it undertook to defend the components' equality, not their sameness? "In our view, it is the version of the constitution that was approved by the Constitutional Conference on 12 July that should be submitted to the 12 December referendum," Shakhray said. "The side that is now dictating terms and conditions must treat the earlier compromise as carefully as possible." Shakhray expects to make clear his bloc's stance at the State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference, and also on 3 November, when the president and the prime minister will hold consultations with regional chiefs. The PRES leader emphasized that there would be nothing wrong in it if "the Federation Treaty remains in the body of the Constitution," or the draft should at least refer to it.

[Following paragraph is a follow-up NG-signed report] Before the election campaign was launched, the "Entrepreneurs for a New Russia" association [OPNR] cooperated with EPIcenter under Grigoriy Yavlinskiy. According to the OPNR press service, a number of substantial differences in approaches to economic reform emerged during this work. In Yavlinskiy's view, the entrepreneurs and directors of state-owned enterprises are often divided by irreconcilable differences. According to the OPNR, the political alliance between these two groups is a fairly realistic possibility. OPNR leader Konstantin Zatulin does not rule out a dialogue with Yavlinskiy as an economist, but sees him as a poor political organizer.

Socialist Unions Side With Shakhray's Party

MK2810122393 Moscow *SEGODNYA* in Russian No. 71, 28 Oct 93 (signed to press 27 Oct) p 2

[Andrey Nikolayev report under the "Trade Unions" rubric: "Association of Socialist Trade Unions Proposes Its Candidates for the Shakhray Party List and Drafts Part of Its Electoral Program"]

[Text] The Coordination Council of the trade union association Sotsprof [Association of Socialist Trade Unions] has decided to propose its candidates for inclusion in the election ticket of the Russian Unity and Accord Party led by Vice Premier Sergey Shakhray. As was advised by Dmitriy Semenov, Sotsprof Coordination Committee cochairman, the decision on cooperation with this party had been largely determined by the fact that "the second in command in it is Aleksandr Shokhin, the only man in the government with a deep understanding of the essence of labor relations and seriously concerned with the need for reforming them." The other no less important reason that prompted the choice of this party by the trade union association is that, in line with the agreement with the leaders of the Russian Unity and Accord, Sotsprof will be writing that part of the party's electoral program that deals with social and labor relations.

Changes being carried out by the government, Dmitriy Semenov thinks, still "did not bear directly on the factory worker." As a result, prices were raised, wages increased, but there was little change in relations between the worker and the administration. Mr. Semenov believes, however, these changes are extremely necessary today.

The social section of the program, according to Mr. Semenov, will radically differ from what the other programs already contain, including the programs of democratic electoral blocs. First, market laws cannot gain a foothold in society unless they take shape within labor relations. It is impossible for a merchant to set prices on goods freely while the cost of the labor force is regulated. Therefore, an important point in the program will be the provision that "the cost of labor is also negotiable." Second, many of our well-known pro-market democrats advocate the establishment in Russia of the middle class, implying that this is a class of small and medium-size owners. In reality, "the middle class is first and foremost a section of highly skilled and highly paid people of wage labor"—although small and medium-size owners also belong in this class. And the third condition, on whose inclusion in the program Sotsprof will be insisting, is "the need for reforming the taxation system." The emphasis should be shifted from the size of taxes to collecting them unconditionally from all who are not exempt. For that a system should be developed of powerful penal sanctions applicable to all who evade compliance with the legislation in force.

The dominant proposition in the Shakhray party's program on the need to preserve an integral and indivisible

state and to provide the regions with powers for solving specific problems at their own level will enable the party, Semenov believes, not only to clear the 5-percent voting barrier but also to occupy one of the leading places in the Federal Assembly. "As for our 'additives' to the program, they would only make it stronger and win over to the party's side people of wage labor," Mr. Semenov said.

List of Civic Union Candidates 'Defies Logic'

PM2810142593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Georgiy Ivanov-Smolenskiy report: "Arkadiy Volskiy Considers That the Union of the Hammer and Sickle Is Not Yet a Spent Force"]

[Text] A press conference was held 26 October at which the formation of the "Civic Union for Stability, Justice, and Progress" election bloc was announced. Its founders include the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, the Association of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Russia, the All-Russia "Renewal" Union, the "War Veterans for Peace" movement, the Russian Social Democratic Center, and the trade unions of workers in the forestry sector and of construction and industrial building materials workers.

At the press conference the bloc's leader Arkadiy Volskiy first of all emphasized that the bloc is not the successor to the "Civic Union" association, and that its name for the election is just a "recognizable mark of its centrism for the voters."

The list of the bloc's candidates which was put out may cause some bewilderment. Alongside the well-known leaders of the former "Civic Union"—Arkadiy Volskiy, Aleksandr Vladislavlev, general directors Nikolay Bekh of "KamAz" and Petr Semenenko "Kirovskiy Zavod"—the recent close comrade-in-arms of the [parliamentary] speaker Vladimir Ispravnikov and Oleg Rumyantsev, who intends to "achieve a continuation of the vestiges of parliamentarism, when everything has been crushed," have also turned up on the list. What is more, the fact that the singer Iosif Kobzon; Viktor Mironenko, former secretary of the All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League Central Committee; and Pavel Voshchanov, former presidential press secretary; are standing together completely defies logic.

Civic Union's Prospects Assessed

MK2810130593 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 71, 28 Oct 93 (signed to press 27 Oct) p 2

[Dmitriy Kuznets report under the "Bloc" rubric: "Civic Union: The Bound of Sword and Plowshare. Industrialists 'Will Coordinate Their Actions' With Agrarians"]

[Text] On the eve of the elections, Civic Union has managed to rally around its banners nearly the entire "centrist" world. Topping the list of the electoral bloc (this is the current precise title of the Civic Union) is

Arkadiy Volskiy, leader of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs [RUIE], who is followed by Nikolay Bekh, director of the KamAZ car plant, and Aleksandr Vladislavlev, chairman of the "Renewal" union. Apart from them, the list includes Oleg Rumyantsev, former senior secretary of the Constitutional Commission, who has longed dreamed about cooperation with Civic Union (his Social-Democratic Center was the bloc's cofounder), and also a number of big industrialists: Petr Semenenko, director of the Kirov plant, and Vladimir Piskunov, vice president of the "Diamonds of Yakutia-Sakha" concern. In addition to the RUIE, the "Renewal" union, and the Social-Democratic Center, the bloc was founded by the trade unions of the timber industry and construction workers. Together they make a fairly reputable company. Civic Union leaders expect their allies with whom they plan to coordinate their actions during the election campaign to be just as reputable: According to Arkadiy Volskiy, Civic Union has already started consultations with the Agrarian Union. Mr. Volskiy nicknamed this peculiar hybrid "the bond of sword and sickle," although he was swift to clarify that "this is, of course, a joke, but it is objectively true."

So, Mr. Volskiy now has an electorate to represent: a number of directors of large industrial enterprises have finally decided "to play on his side," which is what the RUIE and Civic Union once strived for. Given this support base, the "centrist bloc" may expect to gain extra capital—both political and in the direct sense of the word. Hence, Arkadiy Volskiy's complaints about a shortage of money to conduct the election campaign appear to have been prompted by his excessive modesty. Trade unions that have been cut loose from the once orderly ranks of the FITUR, which is currently breaking apart, should not be discounted either. They could lobby for the bloc via their channels. Presumably, the "workers" element may improve the image of the "directors bloc."

Despite the emergence of new allies, however, Civic Union is unlikely to win the 20-plus percent of the vote promised by pollsters, because this rating was forecasted when former Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy was expected to feature prominently on the bloc's list. The only remaining hope is the RUIE's regional structure, whose chiefs, however, are frustrated by the "forced absence" of that same Aleksandr Rutskoy and the systematic "closings" and "openings" of the party. Furthermore, RUIE functionaries have not been given star roles in the current Civic Union owing to their dubious, "Rutskoyist" background (Vasily Lipitskiy is only 12th in the list). The party itself was not even the bloc's cofounder.

Apparently, Civic Union may be able to surmount the 5-percent hurdle, and its candidates may win in a number of one-mandate districts. If the bloc manages to coordinate its actions with the Agrarian Union (to divide the spheres of influence into agricultural and industrial regions while maintaining a joint electoral platform), the centrists may achieve significant success.

Arkadiy Volskiy has greater ambitions: "Leaders of 'Russia's Choice' claim that Shakh-ray's program is close to ours. Well, if he says what we have been saying for 18 months, we may become allies," he said. The idea is traditional for Mr. Volskiy: Earlier he had already made attempts to play on differences at the Council of Ministers. Now that it is the perfect occasion for doing this, the only complaint that can be made is about the "provisional" nature of the current government. Mr. Volskiy, however, has not abandoned his hope to see Viktor Chernomyrdin appointed head of government by the Federal Assembly. Which is what he is apparently intent on accomplishing, together with Sergey Shakh-ray.

The latter has his own reasons to look for an alliance with Civic Union: the not so bright electoral prospects (in light of the campaign launched by his opponents from "Russia's Choice" "to overcome the split in the government," which Mr. Shakh-ray may have to quit as a result) may force the Russian Party of Unity and Accord to search for new companions. The only thing that stands in the way are differences in substance on regional policy—Oleg Rummyantsev holds a "national-state stance," which calls for as much centralism as possible, whereas Shakh-ray relies on the regions. This may prove enough to leave Civic Union once again without "its people" in the government. Even if it is a "provisional" one.

Social Democrats Join Yavlinskiy Bloc

LD2810183193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1619
GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Pavel Kuznetsov and Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow October 28 ITAR-TASS—The Social Democratic Party of Russia joined the Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc because of identity of their views on the priority of democratic reforms, the party's leader Anatoliy Golov told a press conference here today.

Golov said the party's main task was to help create "a professional parliament in Russia capable of conducting a real dialogue with the executive".

He pointed out that the party's list of candidates included many highly qualified economists, jurists and sociologists. As concerns Grigoriy Yavlinskiy's economic programme, Social Democrats are not quite happy with his treatment of some aspects of public life.

Replying to a question from ITAR-TASS, Golov noted that "Social Democrats have much to offer as far as the social aspect is concerned", including "a wider spectrum of non-profit structures specializing in social activities". The party also calls for more attention to problems of employment and unemployment, proceeding from extensive experience of Social Democrats around the world.

Golov said the party's ranks now bring together four thousand people who form 117 organizations in Russia's 60 regions.

The party's deputy chairman Leonid Kulikov stressed that the party activity is in no way connected with "the Marxist-Leninist ideology". He noted that "the ideology professed by Yavlinskiy is Social Democratic in its essence, which motivated the party's decision to join the Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc."

NSF Nominates Imprisoned Konstantinov for Duma

LD2910101993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in
Russian 0900 GMT 29 Oct 93

[Text] Ilya Konstantinov, a leader of the banned National Salvation Front [NSF], who has been charged with organizing the disturbances in Moscow on 3-4 October, has been nominated in Novosibirsk Oblast to stand for the State Duma of the Federal Assembly. Galina Konstantinova, whose husband is in Lefortovo prison, told Interfax that the Novosibirsk organizational committee that nominated the NSF leader to the new parliament notified her on 28 October that the collection of the required number of signatures was virtually complete. Galina Konstantinova believes that until her husband has been legally deemed guilty, no one has the right to restrict his constitutional right to vote or be elected. At the same time, one of the Russian president's recent decrees relating to the upcoming elections establishes that persons who have been officially charged in connection with the October events in Moscow are not permitted to take part in the elections. Ilya Konstantinov was officially charged this week.

Republican Humanitarian Party Explains Platform

LD2810143893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1221
GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Filippov]

[Text] Moscow, October 28 (TASS)—"If the president of the Russian Federation dissolved the parliament, he should officially suspend the constitution. Otherwise his decrees, which deal with elections to the Federal Assembly, do not hold water," Zafar Faktudinov, one of the leaders of the Republican Humanitarian Party, said at an electoral press conference today. The restoration of genuine legality and the establishment of the priority of law over political expediency are the main component parts of the electoral platform of the party, he stressed.

A list of candidates from the Republican Humanitarian Party, which has already started collecting the needed 100,000 signatures, includes 41 persons, mostly scientists and business people. "Now the time has come for the Republican Humanitarian Party, registered in 1991, to start active work in the political arena," Dr. Yuriy Bokan (Philosophy) and chairman of the party, said. He tops the electoral list of the party. He compared Russian society with a ship which has lost its bearings and announced that the "new republicans" can suggest a correct course for its. The party's electoral platform includes the establishment of democracy through the

national identity and traditions of Russians, the transition to a market-based system without the impoverishment of the population and with the participation of broad sections of the population, the creation of a federal republic as a form of Russia's state setup along with the observance of the principles of all-national approach, legality and adherence to moral standards.

According to Zoya Zotova, a political scientist who is no.2 on the electoral list of the "new republicans", the party is ready to work on a new model of "socially balanced society", which will be stable and will combine in a harmonious way the interests of all sections of the population. The party's leaders believe that their social base is made up of representatives of all social groups which seek unity, are aware of their responsibility for the future of this country and favour "strong" Russia.

Election Blocs To Be Guaranteed Equal Air Time

MK2810141593 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 71, 28 Oct 93 (signed to press 27 Oct) p 2

[Petr Zhuravlev report in the "Campaign" column: "Nikolay Ryabov Favors Expansion of the Legal Basis for Using the Media. The Number of Election Blocs Has Exceeded 20"]

[Excerpt] Vyacheslav Volkov, deputy chief of the Russian president's administration, told a press conference yesterday that a decision has been made to create a club of deputy candidates to the Federation Council in the Russian Federation Parliamentary Center. The club will provide training for candidates, who, according to Mr. Volkov, "need to be briefed on the entire complexity of work in parliament"—not with the aim to "intimidate" them, but so that they "do not sink to the level of political intrigues." Vyacheslav Volkov also said that representatives of six election blocs at a conference with Sergey Filatov on Tuesday supported the proposal to create a public committee to oversee the use of the mass media in the election struggle.

Meanwhile Nikolay Ryabov, chairman of the Russian Federation Central Electoral Committee [CEC], indicated Tuesday that the draft regulations worked out by the CEC on the use of the media within the framework of the election campaign will not be promulgated until a presidential edict on this subject has been issued. This edict, according to Mr. Ryabov, is now being drafted by presidential aide Yuriy Baturin. The presence of two documents at the same time is reassuring to the CEC head: "The wider the legal base for using the media, the better." Nikolay Ryabov stated that from 20 November till 11 December election blocs and individual candidates will have an opportunity to speak on state TV and radio for free. Based on the applications submitted, a schedule for such statements will be made up, possibly by drawing lots. The CEC intends to impose a quantitative restriction on the use of air time and see to it that everyone gets an equal share. [passage omitted]

Servicemen To Vote With Rest of Population

LD2810214093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1133 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 28 October—Servicemen in the Russian Army and Navy will vote together with other electors and not in their military cantonments only, as used to be the case before. "An instruction of the Central Electoral Commission, which is to be sent to the Ministry of Defense in the next few days, will give them an opportunity to do this," Valeriy Naumov, a member of the Central Electoral Commission responsible for liaising with institutions and departments, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent. [passage omitted]

He said at the same time that in some locations it is virtually impossible for the military to vote together with the rest of the electorate. In such cases, polling stations will be set up directly at the places where units and formations are stationed.

Russian servicemen abroad will of course vote in their garrisons. The Central Electoral Commission has decided that the polling stations at the military units stationed outside the Russian Federation should be included in certain constituencies.

Gaydar Tops Opinion Poll on Candidates

LD2810174093 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Public Opinion Foundation, an independent sociological service, carried out a survey of opinion in various Russian cities at the end of October. Those questioned were asked which representatives of political blocs they intend to vote for in the parliamentary elections on 12 December this year.

[Correspondent Sharapova] The politicians who were chosen for the survey earned the following ratings: [Viktor] Aksyuchits 1 percent; [Konstantin] Borovoy 2 percent; [Arkadiy] Volskiy 4 percent; [Yegor] Gaydar 12 percent; [Vladimir] Zhirinovskiy 3 percent; [Konstantin] Zatulov 0 percent; [Gavriil] Popov 1 percent; [Yuriy] Skokov 1 percent; [Anatoliy] Sobchak 7 percent; [Nikolay] Travkin 6 percent and [Sergey] Shakhrai 7 percent. Of those questioned, 36 percent said they do not know, and 20 percent said they will not vote.

The Russia's Choice bloc, headed by Yegor Gaydar, did best among people earning a monthly salary in excess of 25,000 rubles per member of family; 16 percent of the replies were in that group. It was also supported by specialists with higher education—18 percent—and by members of the most highly educated section of society—19 percent.

The Party of Russian Unity and Accord, led by Sergey Shakhrai, did best among entrepreneurs—13 percent—and the heads of state-owned enterprises—12 percent. Arkadiy Volskiy's bloc also has a relatively high rating among entrepreneurs—13 percent—and students—9 percent. Russia's Movement for Democratic Reforms, whose election list is headed by Mayor of St. Petersburg Anatoliy Sobchak, got most of its support from specialists with higher education—15 percent—and from young people in the 16-24 age range—11 percent. Most of those who said they do not know come from the least well off sections of the public—56 percent—and people who did not complete secondary education—44 percent.

Support Seen for Groups Advocating 'Evolutionary Path'

PM2810142393 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 3

[Untitled report from Aleksandr Pelts roundup under the general heading "Election Campaign Chronicle"]

[Excerpt] And so, there are six weeks, or 45 days to be exact, until the elections. As of 27 October more than 20 federationwide electoral associations, parties, and political movements had acquired the right to participate in them. There are another five in the offing, ready to file the documents necessary for registration with the Central Electoral Commission.

But what do the voters themselves, in other words you and I, think about the forthcoming elections? Staffers of the All-Russia Center for the Study of Public Opinion, who have analyzed the situation in Russia on the eve of the elections, have focused on this question. Academician Tatyana Zaslavskaya, the center's leader, noted that the expected increase in creative and labor initiatives among the population in the period of the current economic reforms has not happened. A fall has been recorded in the number of supporters of rapid implementation of reforms (from 40 to 25 percent), together with a growth (fourfold) in the number of adherents of the evolutionary path. Thus, the academician concludes, parties and blocs advocating gradual reform and focusing their policy on the social protection of the population could win a large number of votes during the election campaign. [passage omitted]

Military & Space Issues

Media Allegations of Grachev's Dismissal Denied

LD2910104693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1038 GMT 29 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow October 29 TASS—Spokesman of the Russian President Vyacheslav Kostikov denied mass media allegations that Defence Minister Pavel Grachev may be dismissed from his post.

"I have to state with full responsibility that these reports are groundless and are a fruit of lobby interviews and speculations", he said in a statement on Friday [29 October].

The "MOSKOVSKY KOMSOMOLETS" newspaper quoted sources in the Kremlin, the Defence Ministry and the General Headquarters on Friday as saying that Grachev may be replaced either by General Konstantin Kobets or Boris Gromov before November 7. It added that in the presidential administration it is believed that General Gromov will be chosen for the post.

Kostikov said that such "lobby interviews" are attempts to "doubt the clear and loyal relations between the army and the leadership of the country". Attempts to "aggravate relations between the president and the defence minister show that forces remain in the country which aim to drag the army into political games and destabilise the supreme Russian leadership", he stressed, calling the army a "major stabilising factor in the crisis conditions of the transition period".

Directorate Chief Denies Defense Ministry Purge

PM2710134793 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by Igor Chernyak: "Military Are Not Being Purged; Military Are Being Cut Back"]

[Text] Yesterday Vladimir Kosarev, chief of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry Directorate of Information and the Press, denied rumors that a global purge is expected very soon in the military department during which approximately 1,500 officers of the General Staff and Defense Ministry and 400-500 civilians from the ranks of the so-called "hired hands" will be laid off. "It is not a case of a purge but of a rational cutback of those structures which are at present overinflated. Of course, this affects not only the troops but also the central apparatus of the Defense Ministry and the General Staff," Kosarev said. He said that about 20 percent of officers and generals will be subject to the cutback. The information directorate chief asserts that this decision has been caused only by economic problems, which have recently faced the Defense Ministry very acutely. Reports that a purge is being carried out to strengthen Pavel Grachev's positions in the ministry apparatus in which, according to rumors, he is not popular, were called fabrication by Kosarev. He also gave an assurance that political motives will not be considered when determining candidates for laying off.

Gromov Given Responsibility for Internationalist Servicemen

LD2710123893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0436 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Text] Army General Pavel Grachev, Russia's defense minister, has signed Order No. 452 on the organization of work with internationalist servicemen. The order

establishes a new post at the Defense Ministry—assistant to the deputy defense minister for the affairs of internationalist servicemen—to coordinate work and liaison with internationalist servicemen. It sets up a 10-man team to handle these questions. Individual districts, fleets, and groups of forces will assign existing headquarters staff to groups which will handle the affairs of internationalist servicemen. Overall supervision has been entrusted to Colonel General Boris Gromov, deputy defense minister.

Article Sums Up Military Doctrine Provisions

PM2710151593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 2

[Vladimir Petrovskiy article under the "Expert Opinion" rubric: "What Form Will Russia's Military Doctrine Take? This Document, Due for Discussion by the Security Council, Will Pave the Way for Taking a Step Toward Creating a System of Civilian Control over the Activity of the Army and the Use of the Armed Forces"]

[Text] The emergence of the military doctrine is no accident. Russia was forced into this not only by the altered geopolitical realities, but also by the vagueness of Russian foreign policy and the imperfections of its state institutions, which are duty bound to stand guard over Russia's national interests. How to behave with the world community as a whole and with certain of its member states in particular, how to meet the challenges of the times, what forces and methods should be used to counter emerging threats to the security of the Russian Federation—these are the basic questions to which Russian society has yet to receive an answer from Russian Federation organs of power and administration. Therefore the Russian military doctrine is a document of state importance, intended to fill the vacuum in the sphere of Russia's military-political orientation. In other words, the doctrine juridically enshrines the conditions and procedure for using the Russian Federation Armed Forces and other troops for the purpose of safeguarding its military security (in the doctrine, the term "other troops" primarily implies the Ministry of Security Border Guard Troops and the Russian Federation Internal Affairs Ministry Interior Troops.)

The main characteristic of Russia's military doctrine is that it is a political (in other words not concerned with details of the combat use of troops) document for the transition period during which Russian statehood is expected to take shape fully. In the opinion of military experts, the duration of the transition period may be between five and seven years. Therefore, in terms of content, the doctrine is a document which clearly sets out the basic guidelines for using the state's military force—political, military, and military-technical guidelines. This approach to creating the doctrine makes it possible to assert that it is open to correction and improvement, as well as to hope that, a year or two hence, the doctrine itself will not become a dogma in which any state functionary employed in the sphere of

defending national interests might seek answers to any questions which time will place before Russia.

What then are the characteristic traits of the Russian military doctrine? First and foremost, it juridically enshrines the provision that the Russian Federation's Armed Forces and other troops guarantee Russia's security against threats to the vitally important interests of the individual, society, and the state. In doing so, the emphasis is not on the abstract, but on the real political, economic, and military potential of the country. At the same time, the doctrine makes no reference to any one state or group of states being perceived as actual or potential adversaries of Russia. On the contrary, Russia's military doctrine asserts that the era of strong-arm rivalry between states, underpinned by ideological confrontation, has passed, and that in contemporary conditions the probability of world nuclear war or world war with the use of conventional means of attack being launched has been significantly reduced. A greater threat to the world community nowadays is posed by local wars and armed conflicts emerging because of political, economic, military, territorial, religious, ethnic, and other differences in various regions of the world. Should such local wars and armed conflicts impinge upon the vitally important interests of the Russian Federation, then Russia would be entitled to take defensive measures of a political, diplomatic, economic, and even military nature commensurate to the threat posed. This mainly applies to regions adjacent to the Russian Federation state border, places where contingents of Russian Armed Forces are deployed, including on a temporary basis, regions beyond Russian territory densely populated by Russian-speakers, as well as international maritime and air lines of communication and centers of world trade and the extraction of energy resources.

Moreover, the military doctrine specifies that, in the sphere of ensuring external security, the activity of the Russian state's armed structures must be organized according to the following principles:

- peaceful settlement of international disputes, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, noninterference in their internal affairs, and inviolability of state borders;
- rejection of the use of military force against any other state, except in the interests of defense in the event of an attack on the Russian Federation, its territory, its Armed Forces, or its allies;
- assistance for the efforts by the world community and various collective security organs to prevent wars and armed conflicts and, if need be, to maintain or restore peace;
- further development of international law norms, and the elaboration and adoption by the world community of a package of nonmilitary measures to prevent wars and armed conflicts.

At the same time, the military doctrine points out that political, diplomatic, economic, and other peaceful efforts to prevent wars and armed conflicts may be effective only in the event of their being backed up by military might capable of deterring potential aggressors from launching combat operations.

Thus the provisions of Russia's doctrine are underpinned by the concept not of preparing for war, but of preventing it. The actual use of military force is perceived as the exception, permitted only in the interests of defense and in other instances envisaged by the UN Charter.

So it follows that the main purpose of using the Russian Federation Armed Forces and other troops in armed conflicts and local wars is to localize the seat of tension at the earliest possible stage and to halt military operations in the interest of creating conditions for settling the conflict through peaceful means in the interests of the Russian Federation.

The basic tasks which may be resolved by the Russian Federation Armed Forces and other troops—apart from the traditional tasks such as, for instance, deterring or repulsing aggression—include some fundamentally new ones. They include conducting peacemaking operations on the basis of decisions by the UN Security Council and other collective security organs, as well as operations stemming from Russia's international commitments provided they do not contradict the interests of the Russian Federation. There are equally important tasks connected with halting armed conflicts and other actions employing means of armed violence within the Russian Federation and threatening its constitutional system, territorial integrity, and other vitally important interests of Russian citizens, society, and the state.

As for nuclear weapons, they are perceived in the doctrine not as a means of conducting military operations but as a political means of deterring the outbreak of aggression.

Now a few words on the strictly military aspect of the doctrine. Priority attention here is given to the evaluation of the possible nature of military conflicts in contemporary conditions, the strategic aims of using military force and the state's tasks in the sphere of defense, the procedure for using the Russian Federation Armed Forces and other troops, and the basic aims and principles of their organizational development. This is implemented according to the following guidelines for guaranteeing the state's military security:

—first: Deterring the outbreak of world nuclear war or world war using conventional means of attack via the maintenance of strategic nuclear forces in a condition ensuring the conduct of retaliatory operations with the required effectiveness in any conditions of a given situation;

—second: Deterring the outbreak of regional and local wars and armed conflicts via the creation and maintenance of the combat potential of groups of general purpose forces at a level guaranteeing that aggression will be repulsed, and the safeguarding of the potential to promptly build them up in the event of an expansion of the scale of military operations.

Thus the military doctrine is an extremely important and fundamental document for the organizational development and activity of the Russian Federation Armed Forces and other troops. It is a long-awaited document. With its appearance, Russia will take a serious step in the direction of democratizing society and creating a system of civilian control over the activity and use of the Russian state's military force.

'Serious Flaws' Noted in Military Communication Systems

LD2810191493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1636 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow October 28 ITAR-TASS—"Serious flaws have emerged in the technical level of the military communication and automated troop control systems, complexes and means" in Russia, according to the country's First Deputy Defence Minister Andrey Kokoshin. He was speaking to ITAR-TASS after a working conference with scientists and specialists of the Defence Ministry's central Research Institute.

This institute, the oldest research centre of the country's armed forces, is the leader in developing and testing military communication and control systems which can increase considerably the effectiveness of the armed forces and are therefore given priority by the Defence Ministry in conditions of reduced allocations.

"We are lagging behind both in technology of manufacturing means of communication and automation and in the domestic base for microelectronics. This is particularly true about the tactical control link, that is the link which is decisive in the battle. Today's conference was devoted to upgrading work in these fields. We also discussed problems relating to funding military research centres in conditions of gradual commercialization of the defence industry," Kokoshin said.

'Proton' Rocket Launched; Earlier Accident Explained

LD2810181093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1650 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS stringer Semen Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct—At 1817 Moscow time today [1518 GMT] Russia's Military Space Forces (VKS) successfully launched a heavy four-stage "Proton" space

rocket (RKN) with a "Gorizont" communications satellite from Pad 81 of the Baykonur Cosmodrome. As an ITAR-TASS correspondent was told in the VKS press center, the launch was made on behalf of the Russian Federation Communications Ministry in order to provide for round-the-clock distant telephone and telegraph links and transmission of television programs to areas of Siberia and the Far East. In this manner, the communications system based on the "Gorizont" spacecraft, including an orbital group of 10 satellites, gains one more spacecraft.

The mass of the spacecraft is 2,000kg and its guaranteed lifetime is two years.

This second successful launch (the first was on 30 September 1993) effectively "rehabilitated" the "Proton" RKN, that suffered an accident on 27 May this year while launching another "Gorizont" spacecraft. "The carrier rocket (RN) accident took place because its second and third stage engines combustion chamber fire walls burned through, which led to additional fuel feed to the combustion chamber cavity and a significant reduction in thrust." That was the conclusion of an interdepartmental commission set up to investigate the reasons for the disaster, which it did for almost three months, based on the results of analytical investigations received by the leading industrial and Russian Federation Defense Ministry scientific, and research organizations. Specialists also believe that the most likely reason for the accident was the workings of the second and third stage engines, using a fuel that had characteristics that worsened combustion chamber cooling conditions as a result of the complex effect of metal additives (copper, zinc, and others), not indicated in usage documentation, and not regulated by the relevant state standard. It was not possible to establish the time and place when the additives appeared in the fuel.

Work is now under way to improve the quality control of rocket fuel.

Strategic Missile Forces Given Own Press Service

LD2810221993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1215 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct (TASS)—For the first time in the history of the [Russian] strategic missile forces, they have been given a press relations service. The decision to set up a press group for this branch of the Russian armed forces, which has always been surrounded with particular secrecy, has been caused by the desire of the strategic missile force command to keep the public informed about the missile troops' life as they carry out their round-the-clock duty of protecting our motherland.

Colonel Vladimir Krivomazov, chief of the strategic missile force press group, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that "a landing force" of journalists is scheduled to visit

one of the missile troops' garrisons in the next few days, in order to familiarize themselves with their routine.

In contrast with other branches of the armed forces, which have their own newspapers and magazines, the strategic missile force press group is quite small at this stage, but it is hoped that this will in no way prevent it from establishing good relations with the press and the Russian public.

Aircraft Repair Plant Adapts to New Conditions

PM2710160993 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 1

[Anatoliy Borovkov report: "KRASNAYA ZVEZDA-94 Awaits You. Yeyskiy Aircraft Repair Workers Bank on Our Newspaper"]

[Text] Everyone today has plenty of problems. The leaders of the Yeyskiy aircraft repair enterprise, the largest in Russia, have also encountered them. When they celebrated their 50th anniversary two years ago, the aircraft repair workers did not even suspect the difficulties they would encounter so soon.

According to Colonel Aleksandr Tkachenko, the enterprise's boss, for some time now it has been working a short week and short working day. In six months 1,200 jobs will have been smoothly axed. There are constant holdups with supplies of fuel, lubricants, and spare parts. Orders have also declined. But in this situation the plant administration is seeking and finding definite reserves to stabilize production.

"Our main task," Reserve Colonel Aleksandr Stupnitskiy, deputy head of the enterprise, said, "is to preserve the wealth of labor and technological potential and provide workers with social protection. After all, aircraft repair and construction enterprises will always be needed. We are not seeking sponsors, but we are attentively looking to kindred enterprises and trying to introduce new technologies. You know KRASNAYA ZVEZDA is a great help here, it can make many suggestions in its pages."

The aircraft repair workers are not confining themselves to MiG-27's, MiG-29's, Su-22's, and Il-76's, but are now starting to master repairs of the L-39 trainer aircraft's jet engine. No one but the manufacturer does that, so it is therefore a fairly promising undertaking. They are studying the technology for the repair of Tu-22MZ and Tu-95 strategic bomber engines. There is a good opportunity here for cooperation with aviation plants in Moscow, Samara, Taganrog, and Zaporozhye.

In a word, the problems are gradually being resolved. If only to judge by the fact that two assembly shops with an area of 2,000 square meters apiece as well as an administrative-consumer block are now being built at the enterprise. There are plans to move the unhealthy galvanizing shop from the resort area out of town. What is more, with its concern for the social security of its

workers, the administration has not yet had to force anyone out. Pensioners and people who have found other work are being systematically discharged. It is planned to construct a two-story apartment block with a children's clinic on the first floor, and many other socioconsumer problems faced by plant personnel are also being resolved.

Lastly, there is another pleasant decision for us. Aleksandr Stupnitskiy, deputy head of the enterprise, assured me that 200 copies of our newspaper will be taken out on subscription for personnel on a philanthropic basis.

"We love ZVEZDOCHKA [familiar diminutive form of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA]." Aleksandr Timofeyevich said, "and that is why we are banking on it."

Baltic Fleet Troops Practice Antiaircraft Firing
WS2710130193 Kaliningrad YANTARNIY KRAY in Russian 16 Oct 93 p 2

[Report by V. Kostomarov: "Missiles Aimed at the Heavens"]

[Text] The military has such an expression as "sea of flames." In this sense, on Monday [11 October], there was a real sea of flames at one of the shooting grounds in Kaliningrad Oblast.

I have asked Lieutenant Colonel Ivan Chuprin, deputy chief of the antiaircraft defense of the Baltic Fleet Border Troops, to tell us about this in greater detail. He said:

"For many years, antiaircraft gunners, both from the Baltic Fleet and the Baltic Military District, conducted their test firing at a shooting range in Lithuania, near the town of Palanga. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, a natural question has emerged: Where to shoot?

"As for antiaircraft gunners who serve in the Baltic Fleet Marines, they have begun to utilize one of the grounds in Kaliningrad Oblast. Last year, they conducted their test shooting in Belarus. This year, however, we had to renounce this option, because the distance is considerable and fuel is expensive. Moreover, we must again reach an agreement with leaders of a sovereign state.

"Leaders of the 11th Independent Guard Army, common to all arms, have applied to the Baltic Fleet commanders with a request to use one of the local testing grounds. An idea was born to conduct joint exercises at the same facility. Much preparatory work has been accomplished by Col. Aleksandr Kuznetsov, deputy chief of the 11th Antiaircraft Defense Army, and Col. Arkadiy Zavgorodniy, chief of antiaircraft defense at the Baltic Fleet Coastal Troops.

"Despite the fact that antiaircraft gunners have not had any shooting practice for a long time, the results of that day were quite promising. Specialists from an antiaircraft and missile marine battery, lead by Captain Igor Yakunenkov, distinguished themselves in action. Senior

Warrant Officer Vitaliy Afanasiyev and Senior Sergeant Grigoriy Lozovoy, who serves on contract, repeatedly confirmed their proficiency. Furthermore, I would also mention Major Sergey Bultsev, acting division commander, and Maj. Andrey Khoroshev, deputy commander of a unit for work with personnel.

"Throughout my service career," concluded I. Chuprin, "I have never participated in such large-scale antiaircraft shooting exercises. More than 60 missiles were launched into the heavens that day."

Thanking the lieutenant colonel for the interview, I bid him farewell. I found out later that Chuprin himself was shooting that day and hit the "bull's-eye!"

Tactical Air Exercise Held at Lipetsk Base
PM2810102193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by Lieutenant Colonel Viktor Beltsov of the Air Force Press Center: "Pilots Studied Questions of Collaboration"]

[Text] An experimental tactical air exercise involving all air components and air defense forces was held 25-26 October at the base of the Lipetsk center for the combat training and retraining of frontal aviation flight personnel.

The overall leadership of the tactical air exercise was carried out by Aviation Major General Nikolay Chaga, chief of the center. Ground-based command points and the A-50 aviation long-range radar detection and control complex were brought into operation. The exercise rehearsed questions of collaboration by all its participants in resolving the most diverse combat tasks. This is the first time such an exercise has been carried out.

Economic Issues

Council Debates Agrarian Reform
PM2810121993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Report by Yelena Tokareva: "Between Edict and Program"]

[Text] On Tuesday the members of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers Agrarian Policy Council discussed the agrarian reform program for the next two years prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture. They also discussed the unsigned president's edict on land.

Perhaps it was conceived that way? In the auditorium were agrarian specialists of all kinds—from academicians to farm leaders: Vasiliy Starodubtsev and Mikhail Lapshin, head of the agrarian lobby which has gone down in the history of the Supreme Soviet. In the presidium were Aleksandr Zaveryukha and Viktor Khlystun. There was

particular animation with the appearance of Viktor Chernomyrdin. Many people were asking: Will we live according to the program or the edict?

The program, prepared by several hundred agricultural specialists, stated unambiguously that agrarian policy will be based on state agrarian protectionism. State regulation of the agroindustrial complex' domestic and foreign market is not discarded. There are words about reducing food imports which have crushed Russian producers and eaten up hard currency. The program unambiguously advises importing technologies and not baked goods. It provides for the accelerated solution of tasks by mobilizing budget funds. The principle of preferential credits for agricultural producers is by no means discarded. In brief, it is all not according to Fedorov. It is all the other way round.

Of course, the program provides for the painstaking creation of a competitive environment in agricultural production by forming enterprises with different forms of ownership. Creation means work and not uncontrolled regulation.

As a whole the document is of a compromise nature, not as radical as the draft president's decree on land in which, according to the rumors, the supporters of the free purchase and sale of land and a strictly tough market approach toward agriculture had a hand.

It is curious that apart from Vladimir Tikhonov and "Agrarian Exchange" president Vasilyev there were virtually no critics of the program from the right in the auditorium—critics favoring toughening market demands. Nor was there a single defender of the principle of the free completely unrestricted purchase and sale of land. All the speakers, addressing Chernomyrdin, insisted that the president be warned against the hasty signing of the radical edict, citing the sorry consequences of this document coming into force. That is one opinion. So far the country has no other agrarian experts.

Having exhausted all Russian arguments in favor of the free transfer of land to be worked by the peasants and in favor of the targeted allocation of agricultural land, the agrarian specialists turned to world public opinion. And it did not let them down: The items in IZVESTIYA and our newspaper about foreign land legislation and the subsidizing of the agricultural producer demonstrate that the agrarian sphere has been least subjected to radical reform.

Chernomyrdin accused the agrarian specialists of failing to raise agriculture to the necessary level when the state was still investing a lot in it. State tutelage has improved nothing in the agrarian sector.

The premier's arguments were not accepted by the auditorium. The auditorium already knew that the agrarian sphere did not have big money and, most importantly, rational freedom to invest it, and was living according to party instructions.

The premier flared up, but toward the end he unexpectedly softened and stated that debts to the countryside for the grain it has handed over will unfailingly be paid and that it was only the lamentable plight of the army, for which money is also needed, which prevented this from being done in September. The proposals of a more constructive plan, for instance to give subsidies for fuel to its producers so that the price for fuel and lubricants does not soar each week remained hanging in the air.

The final approval of the program was deferred. It is not known whether the signing of the president's edict about which there are as many stories as there are about Pushkin's unpublished poems will be deferred.

The idea of the radical wing in the government—to stratify the Russian countryside, which the Communists feared like the plague—is close to implementation. It was feared but not avoided since Starodubtsev and Lapshin and other strong directors are the result of stratification into weak and strong. Already these strong men can, by using their potential, become the biggest landowners in the countryside, the largest owners of material resources too. However, something is preventing them from doing this. On the other hand other directors are not being impeded. The formation of large-scale landowners will of course come from this wing, which will probably find common interest with the banks. That is in the event of the spontaneous reform headed by the sale and purchase of land—reform which is spontaneous and not regulated by special acts of legislation.

Regulation can be achieved whatever the results, but regulation means work. There are few edicts for creating a civilized agriculture. Agrarian specialists say that a further 19 laws are needed. But even laws are not enough for that. Spontaneous movement toward the market without even a hypothetical planned result leads to just as sorry consequences as marking time.

Commission Discusses Closing Coal Mines

PM2810131193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Report by Aleksandr Golyayev: "Government Embarks on Clearing of Loss-Making Mines"]

[Text] Opening a routine session of the Council of Ministers Commission on operational issues, Oleg Soskovets, first vice premier of the Russian Federation Government, noted, seemingly not by the way: "If the questions which we are examining today are of no interest to individual members of the commission we should note that."

The first question to be discussed was what Aleksandr Yevtushenko, first deputy minister of fuel and energy, called the very acute and delicate question of the so-called clearing away of unpromising and particularly loss-making mines and pits. More simply, the fate of a dozen coal enterprises and many, many thousands of

human fates was being decided. To make things clear I shall cite the following example.

Some 70km from Vorkuta is the "Khalmer-Yu" mine, a small one by Russian standards. The question of the enterprise's closure first arose 15 years ago, its director said. But, first, the country has always needed and still will need coal, and, second, where are these people to go? After all, the majority of settlements, towns, and even cities in Russia appeared around some industrial enterprise—a mine, weaving factory, metallurgical combine, or simply a secret aviation plant. The entire social infrastructure was connected with it—the enterprise literally maintained its workers. That is why they did not close "Khalmer-Yu" 15 years ago, but the problems have still not been resolved and the settlement is also 70km from Vorkuta (and that is quite a large distance under Arctic conditions). As before the mine feeds all the settlement inhabitants, and over half of them are pensioners and children. In brief, if there is no mine there will be no settlement.

"We cannot close the settlement abruptly," said the young director, whose opinion, incidentally, did not initially meet with universal understanding. I should also note that not even the abrupt curtailment of production but its curtailment over two years and the gradual withdrawal of people from the incapable "Khalmer-Yu" zone will cost 45 billion rubles. Where are they to be found, who will pay? The questions are put point-blank, as they say.

The average labor productivity per worker at those mines which have not been modernized for 20-40 years is about 40 tonnes a month—as it was a little over 50 years ago. The equipment is worn out and consequently working conditions have deteriorated—they are simply not safe. There are dozens of mines like "Khalmer-Yu" in the country. There are 8 percent of all Russian miners working at them, the enterprises "bring in" 3 percent of the fuel and 26 percent of the accidents and eat up 12 percent of the budget of the sector. There is food for thought.

Yes, the Ministry of Fuel and Energy is suggesting a program (we will describe it in detail in an issue very soon) in which one of the most important problems consists in measures for the social protection of people when the mines are closed. But meanwhile, Vice Premier Yuriy Yarov believes, it would be no bad thing to supplement this program with another—for the future restoration of the coalmining enterprises which are now being closed or to be more accurate which are scheduled for closure, because this is a very delicate question.

In discussing measures to stabilize the socioeconomic situation in Khabarovsk Kray, the second question on the agenda, a figure was cited that was "mad" even for present times. Unless credits are earmarked for the kray for preferential transport rates and electricity the price of a loaf of bread will "leap" to 800 rubles. Even on this question no decree was adopted because it was suggested that the government resolve the question of constructing a boiler house and chicken factory...

Economics Ministry Analyzes Privatization Results

LD2810181693 Moscow ECONOMIC NEWS AGENCY
in Russian 1400 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] A preliminary analysis of the results of privatization during the period January-September carried out by the Russian Federation Economics Ministry has shown that more than 80,000 enterprises in various branches of the national economy have been privatized. Of these, 52,000—in the small business sphere—are establishments in wholesale and retail trade, catering, and services. It is predicted that if the pace of changing property forms in the small business sphere is maintained, "small" privatization will be completed in 1994, and on this basis the development of the trade and services sphere will accelerate, mainly by creating new small business enterprises.

Privatized enterprises in industry, agriculture, and transport make up 3 to 7 percent, and in construction 8 to 9 percent.

According to the Russian State Committee for Statistics, the total value of enterprises privatized in the period January-August was more than 600 billion rubles [R] (the average sale price of a municipal enterprise was R9 million and of a federal enterprise R51 million). The total receipts from privatization over nine months will, according to preliminary data, be more than R370 billion.

Yarov Comments on Unemployment

LD2810215493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2142
GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Fomicheva]

[Text] St. Petersburg October 28 TASS— "Unemployment is a state problem, not regional one." Russian Vice-Premier Yuriy Yarov, attending an all-Russia conference of employment services, said in an exclusive interview to ITAR-TASS.

The purpose of the conference is to collect and generalise experience in providing people with jobs, reducing unemployment and improving the activities of federal and regional employment agencies.

The problem of employment is directly associated with job opportunities and migration, the vice-premier said. It is essential to retrain workers from defence factories during their conversion to civilian production and provide them with jobs.

"By the year 2,000, a number of unprofitable mines are to be closed down. This means that 48,000 people will be rendered unemployed. Adding the members of their families, we can realise what a great task faces employment agencies in providing them all with jobs," Yarov said.

"One must take it into account that St. Petersburg has not only a highly developed defence industry but also a large number of military units. The Army is being

reduced. This means that the administration of the city and the state have got to create conditions for the reintegration of servicemen into civilian life", the vice-premier pointed out.

Yarov believes that mutual understanding between and assistance to employment agencies on the part of the executive authorities of the city and the region are extremely important. The federal employment service sets great hopes on non-formal, non-state establishments—labour clubs, and youth labour exchanges—which are to play a considerable role in providing people with jobs and changing their specialisation.

"The employment service should go into play not when the number of jobless reaches a critical mass. It is important to monitor, analyse and forecast the situation with an eye to every particular person," Yarov said.

Sobchak Warns of Dangers From Economic Problems

LD2810132493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1142 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Irina Zolotareva and Lev Romyantsev]

[Text] St. Petersburg October 28 TASS—"Russia is facing a real threat of the growth of communist influence and even the establishment of communo-fascism. If we do not find a way to stop production decline and the deterioration of people's living standards, a situation may take shape in this country reminiscent of Germany of the early 30s, when fascists came to power in a most legal way," St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak said here today, opening the first international congress "Joint Enterprise in Russia". He is chairman of its organising committee.

"The government is attaching much importance to the work of the congress," Sobchak said. "Yesterday I met Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, and he wished success to its participants. Unfortunately, the electoral campaign and current duties did not let the prime minister and other members of the government to take part in the congress."

Sobchak mentioned some of the problems of the development of joint ventures in Russia. He pointed to the paradox: in 1990 conditions for joint enterprise and foreign investments in this country were far better, than in 1992-1993. Everyone is holding forth about the need for creating an optimal climate for attracting foreign investments, but when it comes to action, more and more artificial obstacles are being put up on the way of foreign investments. According to Sobchak, there are 6,000 joint ventures in St. Petersburg now, and it is undoubtedly the leader among Russian cities in this respect. However, most of them are consulting and agent firms, and only a few of them are the producers of goods.

Sobchak suggested the implementation jointly with Western investments of two vitally important projects—

the creation of a megapolis in the 650-km zone between St. Petersburg and Moscow and the turning of the coast of the Gulf of Finland into a health resort meeting world standards.

Industrial Performance Reported

PM2710130193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 27 Oct 93 pp i, ii

[Unattributed report "based on Russian State Committee for Statistics data": "Russia's Industry in the First Nine Months of 1993"—from the PROMYSHLENNAYA GAZETA section]

[Text] In the first nine months of the year industrial enterprises produced output worth 63.2 trillion rubles [R] at current prices, including output to the value of R12 trillion in September, which represents a seven- and eight-fold increase on last year's corresponding indicators respectively.

At constant prices industrial production is 16.5 percent down from the first nine months of 1992, 14.2 percent down from September.

Production of 84 percent of reported goods dropped in January-September compared with the same period in 1992. Production of 16 percent of output exceeded the level attained in the first nine months of last year. This applies mainly to certain categories of machine building output and consumer durables.

Figures for a group of 263 reported articles are cited below in terms of the drop (increase) in average daily production:

[Columns in the following table represent: Column A—January-September 1993 compared with same period last year; Column B—September 1993 compared with same period last year; Column C—September 1993 compared with August 1993]

Drop (Increase) in Production	A	B	C
Under 10 percent	34	42	63
10-20 percent	49	57	24
20-30 percent	54	31	9
Over 30 percent	82	86	33
(100 percent increase and over)	43	46	133

The size of the fall in production differs considerably depending on the sector and the production unit. Production of basic goods in the automobile industry, ferrous metal production, the synthetic resin and plastics industry, and the tire and coal industry dropped by under 10 percent compared with January-September last year. It dropped by 10-20 percent in the oil extraction and refining industry, electrical engineering, chemical fiber and yarn production, the wall material industry, the meat and dairy industry, and the sugar industry; and by 20-30 percent in steel pipe production and in the soda,

cement, timber procurement, and the knitwear industries. The most complex situation prevailed in the machine tool industry, the production of equipment for light industry and processing sectors of the agro-industrial complex, and the production of fabrics and sewn goods, where the fall in production of basic goods exceeded 30 percent.

At the same time it must be pointed out that in virtually every sector there are enterprises that did not permit a decline in production. These include the "Intaigol" Concern, the "Dalvostugol" Production Association, the Nizhny Novgorod and Ulyanovsk Automobile Plants, the Kotlas Pulp and Paper Combine, the Barnaul Tire Plant, the Moscow Radiotechnical Plant, and certain others.

For a number of years the dynamics of industrial production in individual quarters has indicated a steady tendency for production to fall in the third quarter against the second quarter. Moreover, the drop was particularly noticeable in 1992. In 1993 this tendency did not change, as can be seen from the following table.

[In the following table figures represent percentages of the total production in the previous quarter]

	1990	1991	1992	1993
First Quarter	100.2	96.4	96.3	100.2
Second Quarter	97.5	95.1	91.9	97.3
Third Quarter	96	94.8	80.2	86.1
Fourth Quarter	105.7	100.8	103.8	

Based on the prevailing industrial work cycle, which has been brought about by a number of seasonal and technological factors, production should be expected to increase in the fourth quarter. This tendency has already manifested itself in September. Last month one-half of reported goods exceeded the August average monthly production level—output from the fuel industry, electricity generation, the chemical and food industries, and nonfood consumer goods.

The lack of material resources and difficulties in marketing output are still causing many production stoppages. Since the beginning of the year there have been 3.9 lost workdays for every industrial worker. In September over 2,400 enterprises shut down their production units either in full or in part. These were mainly enterprises and production units in the machine building and metal working sectors and the light, chemical, and petrochemical industries, where lost work time amounted to 9.7 million man-days (over 84 percent of the total lost in industry).

There have been no substantial changes in the structure of industrial production. The extraction industry share—19 percent in September—is still high, as is that of the processing industry—81 percent.

In August the [average monthly] wage in industry as a whole reached almost R74,000. There was drastic differentiation in the level of workers' pay. [Average monthly] wages were R218,000 in the gas industry, R188,000 in the oil extraction industry, R142,000 in the coal industry, R125,000 in the nonferrous metal industry, and R47,000-56,000 in the light, glass, porcelain, and pottery industries, machine building and metal working.

Extraction of energy resources is still on the decline in the fuel industry. During the third quarter of the year average daily extraction of oil, gas, and coal dropped 5, 11, and 10 percent respectively compared with the second quarter.

During the first nine months of the year 269 million tonnes of oil were extracted by enterprises under all forms of ownership, which is 11 percent down on last year's level, including almost 9 million tonnes at joint enterprises, which represents a 2.7-fold increase on the same period in 1992.

Along with the accelerated depletion of previously commissioned fields and laggardness in carrying out geological prospecting work, the drop in oil extraction has been caused by the grave financial position of the sector's enterprises and customers' debts, totaling R1.3 trillion as at 1 September this year.

Since the beginning of the year 164 million tonnes of oil have been refined, a 15-percent drop on the first nine months of last year, while the degree of refining has dropped from 64.7 to 63.7 percent.

As a result of the decline in Russian gas shipments abroad, extraction in September was 14 percent down on the same month last year. Extraction is 4 percent behind for the first nine months of the year as a whole.

In the nine months since the beginning of the year, 227 million tonnes of coal have been extracted, including 46.5 million for coking, which represents a decline of 10 and 13 percent respectively on the same period last year. Average daily coal extraction in September rose 8 percent on the August figure, including 5 percent at "Dalvostugol" Far Eastern Associations, 25 percent at "Primorskugol," and 40 percent at "Sakhalinugol."

On the basis of the prevailing situation in the fuel and energy complex, extraction of oil, gas, and coal in 1993 can be expected to total 352 million tonnes, 620 billion cubic meters, and 305 million tonnes respectively, decreases of 12, 3, and 10 percent respectively on last year.

In the last quarter, production of cast iron, steel, and finished rolled metal in the ferrous metal industry dropped 7-9 percent compared with the previous quarter, while steel pipe production dropped 23 percent. At the same time, in September, notwithstanding a 0.6-percent drop in production of rolled metal as a whole on the August level, production of such economical categories of output as rolled metal with strengthening heat treatment, hot-rolled

stainless steel sheet, and high-grade cold-drawn steel rose by 15, 27, and 7 percent respectively.

In the first nine months of the year 31.7 million tonnes of cast iron and 45.6 million tonnes of steel were smelted and 33.4 million tonnes of finished rolled metal were produced, representing a fall of 9, 10, and 5 percent respectively on the same period last year.

Rollled pipe production is still in a grave position. In the last month steel pipe production dropped 31 percent compared with last September and 29 percent since the beginning of the year as a whole.

Since April or May there has been a systematic drop in the production of basic articles in the machine building sector. This primarily applies to production of forging and pressing machines, alternating current [AC] electric engines, and electrical bridge cranes. At the same time, over the last two-three months, there has been no decline in the daily production of tower cranes, diesel locomotives, tractors, potato combine harvesters, spinning machines, looms, industrial sewing machines, and automatic and semiautomatic machines, while daily production of urban telephone communication cables has increased over the last few months of 1993.

In the first nine months of the year as a whole, production of most categories of machine building output was down from last year. At the same time one must note the relatively stable position with regard to production of some goods that are in great demand. This applies in particular to automobiles and buses, the decline in production of which has not exceeded 1-3 percent over the last few months compared with the same period last year. Saratov's Uritskiy Plant, the only one in Russia producing trolleybuses, has increased production 16 percent compared with January-September last year. In 1993 production of circular knitting machines, automatic hosiery machines, passenger cars, truck-mounted cranes, automated graders, and tractor mowers has increased compared with the same period last year. Over the year, production at enterprises like the Kovrovskiy Excavator Plant (excavators), Tomsk's "Sibelektromotor" Production Association (AC electric engines), and the "Abakanvagonzavod" Joint-Stock Company (freightcars) has exceeded the level of the same period last year, whereas for Russia as a whole production of these goods has been seen to lag behind the 1992 level.

Conversion is still being implemented in the Russian Federation defense complex. Spending on conversion in the first half-year of 1993 totaled R94 billion. Total commodity production at the complex's converted enterprises at constant prices dropped 15 percent compared with the first half-year of 1992, including nonmilitary output—10 percent and military output—27 percent. In the course of conversion 332,000 men have been laid off, 202,000 (61 percent) of whom were placed in jobs at the enterprises themselves.

By the beginning of the fourth quarter there were no positive changes in the production of the most important

raw-material products in the chemical and petrochemical industry. In January-September this year production of apatite concentrate, soda ash, and caustic soda dropped by 22 percent compared with the same period last year, while production of sulfuric acid and synthetic ammonia dropped by 12 and 5 percent respectively.

In September daily production of mineral fertilizers rose 4 percent compared with this August, but in the first nine months of this year as a whole production was still 1.8 million tonnes (21 percent) down on last year's level. Around three-fourths of enterprises cut production of these fertilizers. At the same time a number of enterprises in the sector managed to adapt to market conditions. In the first nine months of the year they increased mineral fertilizer production 0.3-8 percent compared with last year's level.

The situation with regard to production of raw materials for light industry remains acute. In September average daily production of chemical fibers and yarns dropped to 721 tonnes and stood at its lowest in the first nine months of the year. In the first nine months of the year as a whole it lagged 23 percent behind the level of the same period last year. Half as many synthetic dyes were produced as in the first nine months of last year.

Production of synthetic rubbers, industrial carbon, and technical rubber goods in the petrochemical industry continued to fall. In the third quarter of the year production of these goods dropped 5-15 percent compared with the previous quarter, while production of resin-fabric and resin-cable conveyer belts, and wire-braided hoses dropped 26-42 percent. In the period since the beginning of the year as a whole production of the above categories of output dropped 31-56 percent compared with last year's level. Due to the fall in production of agricultural equipment, production of tires for this equipment dropped 48 percent compared with the same period last year. At the same time production of car tires increased 11 percent. Notwithstanding a considerable (18-33 percent) increase in production of car tires at the Voronezh Tire Plant and the "Omskshina" Production Association, production of tires for freight vehicles dropped to 65-77 percent of the level of the first nine months of last year, while production of agricultural tires virtually halved.

In the timber, wood processing, and pulp and paper industries some stabilization was seen in the third quarter compared with the previous quarter in the production of certain categories of timber output. Production of lumber rose 3 percent over this period, while production of timber joists for wide-gauge railroads rose by over one-fourth. This was achieved by highly productive working by the sector's enterprises in September when average daily production of the above categories of output rose compared with the previous month. The decline in production of plywood, solid laminated boards, paper, and cardboard slowed down. At the same time there is still a sizeable (11-28 percent) lag behind last year's level for the first nine months of the year as a whole in terms of the above goods.

Shortage of raw materials is still holding up the work of enterprises in timber processing sectors. In the first nine months of the year, compared with the same period last year, production of commercial timber dropped by over one-fourth. One in 10 enterprises in the sector is systematically cutting back production. The "Komileprom," "Dallesprom," "Yeniseyles," "Tomlesprom," "Kirovlesprom," "Permiles," "Irkutsklesprom," and "Sverdlesprom" major timber procurement associations are operating in a tremendously laggardly manner (26-38 percent). The drop in timber procurements has entailed a drop in production of pit props, mine slabs, plant-manufactured wooden homes, window and door units, cement particle board, and other output and has also been one of the reasons for the decline in production of pulp and paper output—commodity pulp and various kinds of paper (21-43 percent).

In September, compared with the previous month, the construction materials industry increased average daily production of many highly important categories of output: light roofing and insulation materials, construction brick, window glass, prefabricated reinforced concrete, aluminum alloy structures, steel wall and roofing panels, and ceramic facing stones.

During the third quarter a number of enterprises in the cement industry (the Sukholozhskiy and Sebyakovskiy Cement Plants, the "Sukholozhsktsement" Production Association, the Pikalevskoye "Glinozem" Association, the "Oskoltsement" Joint-Stock Company, the "Lipetsksement" Interenterprise Association, and the "Belgorod Cement Plant" Joint Enterprise) constantly increased production of this output compared with last year's levels. This made it possible for Russia as a whole to reduce the lag in cement production behind the level attained during the same period last year from 38 percent in the first quarter to 6 percent in the third quarter; but in January-September as a whole production lagged 22 percent behind last year's level.

In the third quarter production of slate, wall materials, and window glass was 2-10 points behind last year's level. At the same time, in January-September it was still considerable, standing at 9-23 percent for the above categories of output.

The situation with regard to the production of sanitary and technical equipment and household conveniences remains unsatisfactory. In the first nine months of the year production of baths and heating boilers was 42-45 percent down on the same period last year, while production of radiators, convectors, basins, and washers was 32-35 percent down, and that of ceramic sanitaryware—6 percent down.

In the first nine months of the year production of consumer goods totaled R20.6 trillion, a drop of 11 percent on the same period last year, of which nonfood goods accounted for R10.0 trillion (again a drop of 11 percent).

This September, compared with the same month in 1992, production of cotton and staple yarn, cotton and

silk fabrics, linen knitwear, and umbrellas at light industry enterprises increased (2-15 percent). But production of cotton yarn and fabrics and of footwear dropped 32-41 percent compared with January-September last year, and production of wool and flax fabrics and knitted goods dropped 21-28 percent.

The situation prevailing in the sector is mainly due to the crisis of nonpayments, the shortage of raw materials, and the decline of effective demand. As at 1 September this year, the amount of outstanding debts owed by purchasers of output stood at R160 billion (R145 billion as at 1 August). In September alone, the loss of work time at the sector's enterprises due to shortages of material resources and difficulties in the marketing of output stood at 2 million man-days (almost one-fifth of total loss throughout the Russian Federation), including the loss of 1.3 million man-days in the textile industry. The employment problem will be exacerbated in these conditions, especially in the traditional textile centers. During the first eight months of this year, the number of workers in the textile industry alone was reduced by 95,000 (10 percent), including a reduction by 51,000 (13 percent) in the cotton textile industry. The reductions for the whole of 1992 were 17,000 (2 percent) [in the industry as a whole] and only 1,500 (0.4 percent) in the cotton textile industry. In these conditions it can be expected that total output of fabrics for the year will reach only 68 percent of the 1992 level, including 60 percent for cotton textiles, 70 percent for footwear, 74 percent for knitwear, and 88 percent for hosiery.

The increase in the manufacture of consumer durables was due to a certain extent to the conversion and retooling of enterprises. Compared with January-September 1992, there was a considerable increase in the manufacture of refrigerators and freezers, television sets, cookers, and knitting machines. At the same time, and due to the shortage of material and financial resources, there was a 9-29 percent drop in the production of tape recorders, radio receivers, and motor cycles and a 44-percent drop in the production of still photography cameras.

During September of this year the volume of output produced by the food industry as a whole increased 21.7 percent against the previous month. Output growth in the sugar and butter sectors is seasonal by nature. The production of output in the tea, tobacco, and food concentrates sectors increased against both August of this year and September of last year.

Nevertheless, virtually all food industry sectors in the Russian Federation as a whole failed to reach the production volumes of September 1992.

During the third quarter of this year, compared with the second quarter, average daily output increased for 11 out of the 38 most important categories of foodstuffs. At the same time, this period saw a 39-50 percent lag behind the second quarter's output levels in the production of

vegetable oils, potato products, and the bottling of mineral water, as well as an 11-29 percent lag in the production of granulated sugar, nonalcoholic beverages, food concentrates, groats, tea, confectionery, and fish catches.

A steady reduction of average daily output has been recorded since the beginning of the year in the production of pasta products and margarine. But production started increasing considerably in August, and the September daily output of pasta products was 3,100 tonnes against 2,600 tonnes in July, with the output of margarine standing at 1,600 and 700 tonnes respectively.

Adverse weather conditions in September this year disrupted the sugar plants' production schedules. Due to the lack of raw materials, 26 of the 95 enterprises were not working as at 1 October 1993 (against 14 plants last year), including eight plants in Kursk Oblast, two each in Voronezh and Tula Oblasts, and three in Bashkortostan. The current season is seeing a growth in the volume of tubers being delivered for processing on a commission basis. Whereas last season they accounted for just one-third of the total volume of raw materials, this year they have reached almost one-half. But the overall total of sugar beet processed as at the beginning of October was 3.6 million tonnes, which is 0.5 million tonnes less than last year. Consequently, the lag in the production of granulated sugar from sugar beet against the corresponding month of last year was 6.5 percent. In view of the prevailing situation, it can be expected that the production of granulated sugar from sugar beet will drop by 6 percent for the whole year, while the total production of granulated sugar, taking the processing of imported raw materials into account, will drop 10 percent. Furthermore, the situation on the consumer market is being aggravated due to the disruption of deliveries of this product from CIS states.

Difficulties have persisted throughout the year as regards supplying Russia's population with vegetable oil. Even the 7.9-percent growth of its output compared with the first nine months of last year has failed to alleviate the situation. This is primarily due to this year's considerable cutbacks in imports (a more than eightfold reduction from distant foreign countries alone) which account for one-third of Russian resources for the consumption of this product.

Only canned meat and cheese output was higher than September of last year among the meat and dairy industry products. There are lags of 21 percent in sausage products, 11-17 percent in meat and whole milk products, and 2-4 percent in animal fats and canned dairy products. Cutbacks in the volume of livestock produce purchased by the state have resulted in reductions of 16-17 percent in the production of meat and whole milk products and of 2 percent in the production of animal fats against the levels of the first nine months in 1992.

The trend toward reducing fish catches was maintained in September, resulting in cutbacks in the production of

commodity edible fish products. Compared with January-September 1992, there was a considerable reduction in the output of live and chilled fish, freshly salted and pickled fish, dried, cured, and smoked fish, fish delicacies, and so on. The high prices for tin containers remains as always the main obstacle in the production of canned fish, whose output reached only one-half of the January-September 1992 output level.

In view of the lack of individual categories of fruit and vegetable raw materials, the difficulties in supplying canneries with sugar, and the high manufacturing costs, the output of canned fruit and vegetables reached only 85 percent of the manufacturing levels for the first nine months of 1992.

Regional Affairs

Yeltsin Aide Medvedev Discusses Reform of Soviets

*MK2810131393 Moscow KURANTY in Russian
28 Oct 93 p 4*

[Interview with Nikolay Medvedev, chief of the Directorate on Liaison with the Territories and State Power Bodies under the Russian president's administration, by Konstantin Katanyan: "Soviet Power Is in the Middle of a Funeral Banquet"]

[Text] [Katanyan] How are the regional soviets behaving in the approach to the December elections?

[Medvedev] The soviets no longer have any large-scale tasks or administrative and executive functions. They are to deal with the preparation and conduct of the elections.

[Katanyan] The situation in Chechnya is well known to us. Are there any attempts elsewhere to thwart or sabotage the elections?

[Medvedev] So far, at the preparatory stage all the other regions are ready to take part in the election campaign. Even in my home republic of Mordovia the Supreme Soviet has made a decision to participate in the elections to the Russian parliament on 12 December and to reform the republic's state power bodies.

[Katanyan] What is the situation with reforming the local soviets?

[Medvedev] At present we are drafting yet another document bearing on local self-government bodies. There are two approaches here. One is based on the present-day reality that we inherited from the CPSU, and it envisions a vertical structure of local self-government bodies from the rural settlement to the district. The other, which I would describe as ideal, limits the activity of these bodies to the level of rural settlements. In this event rural, township, or city self-government operates within the scope of its jurisdiction and independently resolves matters on its level.

Strictly speaking, today we have no local self-government or separation of powers in the direct sense of the word. The Supreme Soviet tried to create an ideal scheme ignoring reality. And it appeared that in one state two parallel power structures coexist: the traditional system of soviets and the executive vertical structure as represented by the popularly elected president and the heads of administrations appointed by him. As a result, things came to the point of the well-known events in Moscow.

[Katanyan] What will happen to the institution of administration heads in the future—will they be appointed or elected?

[Medvedev] If one proceeds from the postulate that power is not an end in itself, then one should not copy Western patterns thoughtlessly. Today the situation is such that it is vital to deal with the main task—to lead the country out of its economic crisis. Considering that absolute monopoly remains in the economy and in the sphere of state property, the state authority that should run this economy must be stable, strict, and coordinated. And the mechanism of forming this power system during the transition period should be what it is now. In other words, what is involved is the appointment of all heads of the executive branch on a vertical basis.

[Katanyan] Does it not seem to you that any representative power body, if it is not empowered to oversee the activity of the head of administration, simply loses its main function?

[Medvedev] Who said it has no oversight functions? On the contrary, it exercises oversight. It is another question in which difficulties form. There is simple oversight, and there is interference in all day-to-day affairs....

[Katanyan] Of which all our soviets were guilty.

[Medvedev] And before that, the CPSU raykoms and obkoms. Their main business at that time was to discuss the performance by executive council chairmen. They were regularly criticized at party committee sessions and the heads of administrations, at soviet sessions.

Not all questions can be decided by a simple majority in the soviet, especially since up to now we have no mechanism to ensure a deputy's responsibility, and everyone votes the way he likes. If I have a conscience, I think before voting about how the decision made will affect the fate of my electors. And if I have no conscience, I can well vote as I was asked by the man sitting behind me.

No question, representative bodies must oversee the heads of administrations. These are the rudiments of democracy. But only those decisions are subject to be rescinded which were made in circumvention of the legislation and which have been challenged by law enforcement bodies.

[Katanyan] I understand that you are not preparing an edict on the dissolution of all the soviets. Yet I was quite

bewildered when the soviets, which had condemned B. Yeltsin's famous September edict, suddenly reversed their decision. If you disagree, resign. Is the chair more precious than conscience?

[Medvedev] This is evidence of the political prostitution about which we have talked on many occasions. The point is not which guise to put on—of a democrat or a partocrat. The point is about responsibility and irresponsibility. The question of decency lies on another plane—in the sphere of human relations.

And responsibility envisions a certain legal mechanism. It exists in the executive structure—any irresponsible official may be dismissed by the president. But no one will dismiss an irresponsible deputy, because he is protected by his mandate—he is immune from legal action and moreover he devises laws himself. Although it needs to be recognized that more than 20 regional soviets have summoned enough courage to dissolve themselves.

[Katanyan] What will their successors be like?

[Medvedev] Under the presidential edict, the new representative power bodies in the Federation components, which can conditionally be called legislative assemblies, are elected for two years and consist of approximately 50 people.

[Katanyan] May local administration officers be deputies of a legislative assembly at the same time?

[Medvedev] This question is regulated not by the edict but by the current legislation, in particular by the Law on Kray, Oblast Soviets, and Kray and Oblast Administrations.

[Katanyan] Will you yourself be running for deputy?

[Medvedev] I was not going to contest the elections. I wanted to work with President Yeltsin professionally for two years. I do not need new presidents and after the election of a new president I was going to leave politics altogether. But since I was nominated in my native republic of Mordovia, I agreed to run for the Federation Council in a two-seat constituency together with V. Konakov, the president's representative in Mordovia.

Ural Official Rejects Medvedev Criticism on Constitution

*LD2810211993 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1810 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Chairman of the Sverdlovsk Regional Council, Anatoliy Grebenkin considers "at least strange" the statement of the head of work with territories under the Russian president's administration, Nikolay Medvedev, that the Sverdlovsk Regional Council went beyond its powers when adopting the Constitution of the Ural Republic. In his words, the region has the right to adopt a charter of the region and the Ural Republic's constitution adopted in Yekaterinburg on October 27th is not more than "a constitutional charter."

The Sverdlovsk Region does not claim state sovereignty. Grebenkin emphasized on Thursday [28 October] in an interview. He clarified that the Ural Republic was not a republic, in fact, it is a state-territorial formation.

On the issue of the registration of the Ural Republic among the Russian Federation republics in the draft of the new constitution, Grebenkin voiced hope that the Constitutional Conference, which the Head of the Regional Administration, Eduard Rossel takes part in devising, would make a positive decision on the issue.

"There may be an extreme reaction to our move. If we are dissolved this will mean that the federal structures are not mature enough to understand how the regions live and how to establish a truly federal state," Grebenkin pointed out.

The council's chairman expressed the opinion that there would be no decisive measures on establishment of the united Ural Republic adopted at the meeting of the heads of the Ural regions on November 9th. "We have received non-official backing from all the heads of the Ural region's administrations. However, we should not be in a hurry," Grebenkin emphasized.

Regions Stress Need To Preserve Federation Treaty

Komi Wants Treaty in New Constitution

LD2810202093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1736 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[Text] Syktyvkar October 28 TASS—The parliament of the Komi Republic in northwestern Russia applied to the Constitutional Convention and President Boris Yeltsin stressing the need for preserving the Federative Treaty as an integral part of Russia's new constitution.

Komi lawmakers believe that the Federative Treaty has determined "a new pattern of relations between Russia's regions and the central authorities within the framework of the single Russian Federative state". According to them, the treaty "is meant to be the basis and the act of common accord, whose norms and principles, if strictly observed, will enable Russia to further develop within the framework of the world civilization".

Kabardino-Balkaria Leader on Treaty Support

MK2810125393 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 3

[Unattributed NEGA report in the "North Caucasus" column]

[Text] Addressing a news conference in Nalchik after the signing of a cooperation treaty between Kalmykia and Kabardino-Balkaria [KBR], KBR President Valeriy Kokov said in particular that some political circles are using the Constitutional Conference in an effort to undo the Federation Treaty. He stated that in the last few days

he has spoken on the phone with the majority of Russian republic leaders and that they all agree that the Federation Treaty, which has preserved the unity of Russia, is the notch below which it is impermissible to fall. Failing to get President Yeltsin on the phone, the KBR president sent him a telegram proposing in particular that a Council of the Heads of the Russian Federation Republics session be summoned before 30 October to discuss the current situation. "After that we will work out a strategy for further measures. No one will manage to ignore the federal basis of our state today," the KBR president said.

Khabarovsk Democratic Movement Split in Campaign

PM2810131393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
26 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Boris Reznik report: "Preelection Strife in Khabarovsk Democrats' Camp"]

[Text] Khabarovsk—Khabarovsk Kray's already fragile democratic movement has finally split. Before the very eyes of the astounded public, its leaders have engaged in market-place barter, sharing seats in the future parliament among themselves.

A session of the kray's council of representatives of democratic forces, attended by almost all its members, ruled that the regional framework is already too narrow for its struggle for democracy and it is ready to rush immediately to the capital to make laws. The council's cochairmen and its members have styled themselves candidates for election to the supreme legislative organ, nominating 14 people who have distinguished themselves only by bawling loudly at rallies.

At the same time, it is believed that they head parties and movements of, as people jest, the "sofa type": All members could fit onto one sofa. But the ambitions of the local democratic leaders are truly universal. Some of them have been to Moscow in order get their own names entered on the electoral list. And a few days ago they caused a real furor in the office of Vladimir Desyatov, the president's representative in Khabarovsk Kray.

It must be said that Desyatov himself is in an extremely delicate position. The president has once already given indications of consent for his dismissal, but he has hung on to his office. Later on Desyatov failed his performance appraisal [ne proshel attestatsiyu], but is still in office. The point is that the president's representative has himself already long since become the shadow of his own assistant, Che Mu Yen.

Che has assumed the heavy responsibility of putting together the team of future members of parliament from Khabarovsk Kray.

"While in Moscow for the 'Russia's Choice' congress, I named candidates who would worthily represent our region on both the Credentials Commission and the Conciliation Commission and asked that they be

included on the list, but this was greeted by howls of indignation from the democratic leaders gathered in the office of its chief," Che stated. Naturally, in Che's view, the most worthy of all proved to be his immediate boss.

"I would ask Desyatov to attest to the validity of my actions," Che went on.

He went on to demand from the candidates who had arrived there the most rigid obedience to and performance of all his instructions.

The conversation took place in the office of the former second secretary of the CPSU kray party committee. In the past too, prospective deputies used to be "edified" there, but they were never subjected to such gross pressure. Amazingly, all this is being done by people calling themselves democrats and swearing loyalty to the president.

Sakhalin Oblast Chief Discusses Elections, Economy

OW2910102393 Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
*Teleradiokompaniya Sakhalin Television Network
in Russian 2005 GMT 21 Oct 93*

[Studio interview with Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Krasnoyarov, head of the Sakhalin Oblast Administration, by Lyudmila Latysheva; from the "Morning Cruise" program—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Latysheva] Today is Friday, and by tradition we have a meeting in our program with a representative of the Sakhalin Oblast Administration. Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Krasnoyarov, head of the Administration, is a guest on the "Morning Cruise" program for the first time. [passage omitted] Yevgeniy Alekseyevich, you go to Moscow on planned visits, but it seems to me that more often you have to go on summons, or you go because of the events that periodically occur there. Your latest visits to Moscow were probably also related to political events. So we would like to hear from you: What should the people of Sakhalin be guided by today?

[Krasnoyarov] No, my last nine visits to Moscow were on summons, although usually I include my own affairs, or rather local Sakhalin matters, that must be decided there by federal authorities. The latest events on 3-4 October showed that the Rubicon of the political power crisis has been crossed. One could say now that all power in Russia, in the Russian Federation, belongs to the executive branch, and this executive power has to some extent overtaken representative power as well. For instance, the president disbanded the Supreme Soviet, with equivalent actions taking place in some oblasts. What can Sakhalin expect? Well, the question is extremely broad, and it would probably be difficult to give one answer. You must keep in mind the political and economic situation.

Let us look at the political situation today. The date for the elections has been clearly set, for both local and central organs of representative power. Representative organs of Russia are being formed: namely, the Federal

Assembly, which will consist of two chambers, the upper and lower chambers. The lower chamber will be the State Duma, the upper will be the Federation Council. If we look at this in American terms, we could say that we will have a House and a Senate.

At the local level, the elections will also be held on 12 December. I know that a federal commission has been established which is drafting plans for local parliaments. These documents will be passed down to us from above soon, but we here too have reformed the small and large soviets, and by a decree I have established a commission for working out standard documents for a local parliament. This group has now begun working on the state structure of Sakhalin Oblast, if I may put it that way.

The situation in the economic sphere is a bit more complex. As you know, in recent years we have seen the creation of two branches of economic development of Russia. One branch was established and headed by Gaydar. It firmly established the idea of privatization and destatization of all enterprises. After a certain period of time, the branch of state regulation of the economy took the upper hand, and as you know, it was headed by Lobov, first vice premier and minister of economics. Now in the recent past, right before the tragic events in Moscow, a quiet revolution occurred in our government. The winner was the reformist wing headed by Gaydar, which favors large-scale privatization, limited state administration of the economy, and effective political power. I particularly stress effective political power, central power that must be enacted from top to bottom.

So today we have this direction in economics. I think that this is wise and correct, although we should also take stock of the fact that having initiated the first stages of privatization to some extent but not completed it, we have let the system for administering the economy slip through our hands. For example, I can say that some 80 percent of the enterprises in Russia are still state property. In Sakhalin, this figure is more than 50 percent. So we have repeatedly told the Gaydar government that during the transition period we ought to retain state administration of the economy.

In Sakhalin, I am following a somewhat different path. I think that we should no longer depend largely on old methods of leadership and put everything under state control, although in some cases this is inevitable during the transition period. We simply decided to strengthen the vertical structure of administration. This does not mean that we are managing only state or private enterprises. You know that I have said this before, and I am reiterating it now, that strengthening the vertical structure of management leads to coordination and planning of all forms of property of enterprises. Here is a simple example: Last year, 10 times more onions than were needed by the people of Sakhalin were brought in. In other words, no one coordinated or planned this. This does not mean that by creating a vertical structure of administration in the form of departments, administrations and sections, we will be sticking our noses into

economic structures. No, absolutely not. Our goal is by no means to get into the management of the economic structure. But our task is to help, to coordinate, and plan in general, and to pursue inter-branch balance at the oblast level.

[Latysheva] Excuse me, I will interrupt you. The Kurils are watching us now. Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Medvedev has discussed this topic, how the situation in pink salmon fishing has turned out this time. The Kuril fishermen turned over part of the raw materials—or rather the major part of the catch—to Maritime Kray factory ships, leaving neither raw materials for our fish processing plants or any money in the form of taxes in their Kurilskiy Rayon.

[Krasnoyarov] This is simply ignorance on the part of leaders of the rayon administration. What else can I say, because by giving away the raw materials to Maritime Kray fishermen for a song, a minimal profit figure will remain on the accounts of these enterprises, I mean for the raw materials simply given to the Maritime Kray fishermen. It turned out that they had a 32 percent tax on profits and a 20 percent value-added tax. This is the minimum profit that could be made. Now if they had processed the fish at Sakhalin or their own enterprises, then naturally, by being more profitable, they would have had more funds for their budget, too. So naturally, the direction of this work...

[Latysheva, interrupting] So this is the vertical structure...

[Krasnoyarov] That is precisely what the vertical structure has been established for, and every mayor of every rayon or city must be interested in having the greatest number of profitable enterprises. If the enterprises are profitable, the taxes are greater, and consequently more money goes into the local budget...

[Latysheva, interrupting] This means clean cities.

[Krasnoyarov] Clean cities, social support for the population, and so forth. I must say that results for the past eight months indicate that we have three rayons in the red. Strange as it may seem they include Korsakovskiy Rayon, with losses of 4 billion rubles [R] in eight months. The Ocean Fishing Base is primarily responsible for pulling them down. It is working out very badly, very badly. Then comes Makarovskiy Rayon, with losses that are not so bad: R206 million. This can be attributed to the pulp and paper combine, which has been idle and cannot sell its output. This is a separate topic, and we could talk about the pulp and paper industry separately. Finally, there is Yuzhno-Kurilskiy Rayon, which has losses of R20 million.

All the other rayons are in the black, particularly Kholm-skiy Rayon, which is in first place with a profit of some R15 billion. Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk has R12 billion in profits. So the mayors of these cities are working on their

budgets and are creating conditions for the profitable operation of enterprises. This is the main task of city and rayon mayors today.

[Latysheva] So it turns out that we can solve many of our problems on the spot ourselves by organizing and creating profitable...

[Krasnoyarov, interrupting] Of course we have everything we need to manage this. It was not for nothing that I once said that we need 20,000 profitable enterprises like we need air. Today, according to the results of eight months, 26 percent of our enterprises are not profitable. One needs to be an optimist and a realist, and view this critically. In principle, these enterprises need to cease. But we must pursue these measures so as to adhere to an elementary level of social protection for the workers of these enterprises. This is also a task of the mayors of cities and rayons, who should possibly create some sort of fund—an insurance fund at the expense of the profitable enterprises. Everyone must understand that this is our common task.

In fact, we had a very unsuccessful season of salmon fishing this year. Many additional enterprises were established, and about R10 billion in credits were accumulated for fishing operations, for haulage, for supplies, tackle, salt, barrels, and packaging materials. But there were no fish, and many suffered a fiasco. Now we are attempting to somehow compensate these losses by creating a fishing industry insurance fund at the expense of additional limits, possibly for 1994. We will have to see how this will work out. Apparently, this insurance fund will be created soon. All fishermen and fish processing workers are interested in this, because the fishing industry is a risk industry and it must be insured by some kind of...

[Latysheva, interrupting] Guarantees.

[Krasnoyarov] Guarantees, yes.

[Latysheva] Yevgeniy Alekseyevich, we are often visited by high-ranking visitors from Moscow. They come here on business trips. I mean ministers. The fuel and power industry minister was here recently, and [Prime Minister] Chernomyrdin was here. Tell me, have these visits been beneficial for us Sakhalin people? I mean for us, not for them.

[Krasnoyarov] I think there have been positive results, both for them and for us, because it is a very difficult task to administer the country without being familiar with its peripheries. I met with Chernomyrdin several times and we finally convinced him—I mean many heads of administrations, particularly Khabarovsk Kray—to visit us. So he found the time and visited us. So a draft decree on the development of social protection of Sakhalin Oblast will be signed any day now. I have it here with me. It envisages some good benefits. In particular, subsidies will be allocated for coal miners amounting to R15 billion for this year to cover their expenses in the fourth quarter, R40 billion for next year

to cover the social sphere, and capital construction for the coal industry. New tariffs will be developed and examined.

Sakhalinugol [Sakhalin Oblast Coal Mining administration] is presently selling coal for 14,000 [rubles a tonne], and of course, in principle, this results in losses for Sakhalinugol enterprises. There needs to be some sort of state subsidy. Here once again, the issue that we spoke about arises. We should all understand that some mines will have to be closed down because they are very unprofitable. So we must develop social measures necessary to protect the miners and somehow deal with their unemployment. This is a separate issue, and I could tell you more about the plans we are working on.

As far as Chernomyrdin's visit is concerned, what benefits have been envisaged for us? I think that we will publish this decree in the near future. However, I would like to say that all imports coming into Sakhalin will be free of taxes, and export taxes will be decreased by 50 percent. This is a major tax break. As a former worker in a joint enterprise, I understand what it takes, for instance, to build a typical plant. I have already given an example, but some R750 million must be paid in customs duties alone. So you can imagine the following situation. An enterprise imports the latest equipment from abroad, since we will not have our own in the near future, even though converted military industries are beginning to turn out new equipment for processing fish, timber, coal, and oil. However, technically they are still no match for foreign models. So now it is better to bring in cargoes from abroad. We have always been slowed down by customs and export duties.

[Latysheva] We are directly affected by this because the camera we are using right now is Japanese, for instance, and the editing equipment is also Japanese. When we imported it, we had to pay in hard currency which we had earned, and we had to pay customs duties. [passage omitted]

[Krasnoyarsk] This decree envisages the development of the power industry during the 1994-95 period, including the sixth and seventh boilers at the Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk TETs [Heat and Electric Power Station]. Many LEPs [electric power lines] will be built, and a 220 kilovolt LEP will reach Dagi. There will be many other projects. Chernomyrdin also had to show his face. So he visited here and spoke and found out about local conditions. He made promises, so how would he look if he did not fulfill his promises? I am interested in bringing as many ministers here as possible—a large group. Several more ministers will appear here soon in order to inspect the place.

I am particularly concerned by the pulp and paper industry, of course. The issue of our seven struggling paper plants is a thorn in my side, second after the Kuril problem. So while Kuril Islands give me a headache

every day, the pulp and paper combines are an additional headache. We are working on this problem, figuring out how to diversify them. I even have information that in connection with Yeltsin's visit to Japan, the Japanese have now agreed to reequip one of the paper combines at their own expense.

[Latysheva] You mean remove the equipment installed in 1905 and replace it with new equipment?

[Krasnoyarsk] [laughs] Not 1905. Most of the paper-making machines date from the 1930's. But they are obsolete, and we cannot compete with modern plants in such places as Karelia or Krasnoyarsk Krai, where the production speed is dozens of times greater and the production cost much lower. In any case, in a free market, our pulp and paper combines are doomed because of their severe obsolescence. So we again need to develop a system of social protection to take care of this. We now have 1,500 unemployed people, many of these from Tomarinskiy Rayon. Generally speaking, in Makarovskiy and Poronayskiy rayons, unemployment is related to timber processing and paper production.

We have now initiated an unemployment program and are trying to establish where these people can be employed and reeducated. This is a very difficult problem. You may recall that Reagan and even Clinton were concerned with creating jobs. They are building roads. We too could create them, but we need funds. Funds may appear soon from three sources: state support, foreign investment, and our own funds from local sources—money from our own pockets, although there is not very much.

So here the question of developing the shelf as soon as possible arises. Today, I can say that fairly good work has been carried out, and I think that by the end of the year we will sign an agreement to start work on the Sakhalin-2 project. What does this mean? Well the Americans, or rather the consortium or group that is working with us, have agreed in principle to all the demands of Sakhalin Oblast. Overall, we should get about \$25 million in bonuses.

[Latysheva] By we, do you mean Sakhalin, or Russia in general?

[Krasnoyarsk] No, Sakhalin. In fact we have not agreed yet whether to share it 50-50 with Russia, or 40-60, with 60 percent going to Sakhalin.

[Latysheva] I think this is the most important question today which interests everyone on Sakhalin.

[Krasnoyarsk] Naturally, it needs to be coordinated, and I too attach great hopes on it for the development and enhancement of Sakhalin.

[Latysheva] I would like to say that this was only the first part of our talk with Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Krasnoyarsk. He does not appear on our program very often, so naturally we had a very long discussion on very many

important topics concerning the economy, social protection, and many things governing life in our island region. So you will see the continuation of our talk in later editions of our "Morning Cruise" next week.

Replacement of Moscow Prosecutor Said Likely

MK2810112593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 1

[“NG”-report under the “In Brief” column: “Prosecutor’s Dismissal in Pipeline”]

[Text] It has become known from several well-informed sources that a reshuffle of the chiefs of the Moscow Prosecutor’s Office is in the works. Gennadiy Ponomarev, current city prosecutor, known for his tough stance on illegal decisions made by the capital’s authorities, will be removed from office. Andrey Makarov, who at the moment heads the Interdepartmental Commission on Fighting Corruption, is named as the most probable candidate for this position.

Crime Up in Udmurtia; Prosecutor Opposes Crackdown

PM2810140993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Oct 93 First Edition p 6

[Boris Bronshteyn report: “Night of Explosions and Pogroms in Izhevsk”]

[Excerpts] Criminal events of unprecedented scale and brutality have rocked the city of Izhevsk during the month of October. In the course of clashes between two powerful groups, Fords, Opels, and commercial kiosks have been burned, office windows have been shattered, and people have been viciously beaten. According to thoroughly reliable information, some people have even had their ears cut off.

All this began when a mine was placed in a car belonging to the well-known citizen G., president of a commercial firm, or under the car to be more precise. The mine was cleverly camouflaged as a lump of dirt, but nevertheless it was noticed by the president’s bodyguard as it followed his BMW in another car.

A specially summoned mine specialist spent 40 minutes trying to coax the mine down and averted some very unpleasant consequences. But whereas the BMW remained in one piece, a few hours later various prestigious foreign models went up in flames in various parts of the city, as well as Zhiguli, Moskvich, and Zaporozhets cars that happened to be parked nearby, which were obviously not deemed to be cars by the warring sides from their lofty vantage point. [passage omitted]

As a result of prompt measures that were taken, 74 people were arrested. Criminal proceedings have been initiated in a number of cases for arson, hooliganism, murder, and kidnapping. The last case cited relates to the kidnapping of citizen Kh., director of a local firm, who

was brutally beaten at the office of the “Rossiyskaya Meditsina” firm. The office was smashed up by a gang of attackers, and having been beaten up, Kh. was bundled into his own Ford and whisked off somewhere. The Ford was later driven back and burned along with the office.

Criminal proceedings have been initiated over the attempted murder of citizen G., the owner of the mined BMW. Incidentally, he too has been arrested because, according to the version of events presented by the investigative organs, it was his people who organized the pogrom in response to the attempt to blow up his car. [passage omitted]

October’s monstrous events happened in Izhevsk at the very moment when the Republic of Udmurtia’s parliament was on the point of adopting a law on emergency measures to combat crime. The draft law is ready, and the militia and some of the mass media are insisting on its adoption. Speaking on local television, Udmurtia Supreme Soviet Chairman Valentin Tubylov said that this law is very necessary and needs to be adopted.

Among other things, the draft law entitles officers of the militia and the security organs to detain citizens suspected of carrying out grave crimes for up to 30 days without a prosecutor’s warrant (under Russian Federation laws this period should not exceed 72 hours). It is well known that a similar law has been in force for several months now in Tatarstan, and some specialists believe that it has yielded positive results in the war against crime.

“The Udmurtia Prosecutor’s Office opposes emergency mania of this sort,” Aleksandr Borzenkov retorts. “After all, in present conditions nobody is insured against arbitrary behavior. Moreover, all the pacts and declarations on human rights stipulate a detention period of 72 hours. Why should we take a step backward from civilization? I think that if the law-enforcement organs possess enough strength, experience, and up-to-date information, it will be possible to work within the framework of the law as it exists.”

But while these disputes are going on about tightening up measures to deal with lawbreakers, Udmurtia’s inhabitants are trying to come to terms with reports of events published in the newspapers. Even now, when the warring groups have quietened down, there is still plenty to read about. Judge for yourselves:

In broad daylight an unidentified citizen shoots directly at a female passerby near a movie theater. A mother-in-law quarrels with her son-in-law and kills him outright with a blast from a sawed-off shotgun which she bought at the market just in case. A highly strung citizen returning home from jail spends one day outside and murders his neighbor with an ax. Corpses, corpses, and more corpses.... They are constantly turning up in forests, apartment building basements, and ponds, dismembered and unidentifiable.

...In the evenings the streets of Izhevsk are empty, and commercial stalls which normally used to work round

the clock have started to shut down at nightfall. Take counsel with your pillow. But is it safer?

Volgograd Grain Stores Full; Concern Over Bread Prices

PM2810141393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 26 Oct 93 p 3

[Vitaliy Cherkasov report: "Where Are Peasants To Turn?"]

[Text] Volgograd Oblast calculated what its storage facilities hold this week, and it emerges that they have 5.1 million tonnes of grain alone. The state order for the sale of wheat has been overfulfilled by 100 percent.

Where else are peasants without fuel and money and working with patched-up equipment capable of working so selflessly? The state, after all, has not paid them even for the grain which they shipped to the elevators long ago and which, judging by the documents, it has already sold. The Volgograd Oblast Administration for Bakery Products alone now owes the peasants 48 billion rubles [R]. Hundreds of thousands of tonnes of grain lie in storage at the elevators.

The government has no money, and there is only one solution: The people themselves must pay for the bread which they eat. Therefore, as of 15 October bread has been sold in stores at free prices. From the standpoint of the market, this is fair: While the prices for sources of energy and equipment have been constantly rising, the peasants have hitherto been paid for the fruits of their labor as the state dictated. It is no surprise therefore that there is not a single grain exchange operating in the whole of Russia. However, it is no longer possible to force farmers to wear a price straitjacket.

Oblast Governor Ivan Shabunin has appeared on local television and spoken about the preventive measures which the administration is taking in an attempt to soften in some way the blow from the inevitable decline in Volgograd Oblast inhabitants' living standards. First and foremost, bread subsidies for disadvantaged people have been increased. In August they were 235 rubles [R], in September R470, and in the fourth quarter R1,400 per month. These top-ups will be received by those whose wages do not exceed the minimum pension, the non-working wives of servicemen, mothers looking after children, students, pupils, the unemployed, and refugees. Moreover, children's homes and other public establishments are being compensated for extra outlay on bread.

So how much does bread cost now in Volgograd? A standard white loaf is R120 and a rye loaf R80.

Viktor Tarasenko, general director of the Volgogradzeronprom joint-stock company, said:

"We have already carried out new calculations for the prices of bread products and sent them to the Administration for Pricing Policy. The real price of bread today is R230 a loaf..."

Dubna Plants Set Examples of 'Wholesale Conversion'

PM2710105793 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1310 GMT 25 Oct 93

[From the "Business in Russia" program]

[Excerpt] [Unidentified reporter] Today we will be looking at how some major enterprises, formerly associated with the defense sphere at the world-famous international scientific and physical research center in Dubna near Moscow, are surviving in market conditions. They have found the conversion process extremely painful. The Tensor instrument-making plant is an example of wholesale conversion. It used to mainly produce complex high-tech instrument-making output for nuclear power stations and nuclear fuel reprocessing plants, as well as instruments for scientific research. Its state orders have now fallen to virtually nothing. As a result of this sharp slump in demand for its traditional output, the number of workers at the plant has halved. The demand for its products is still there, but those who need them do not have the wherewithal to pay. In this situation the plant has been forced to find a way out on its own. With the help of conversion loans—used exclusively for investment in production—it has gradually organized the manufacture of new, civilian, products. Products which have already reached the marketplace and are essentially allowing the enterprise to survive in these difficult conditions include security systems, fire-fighting equipment, and all kinds of domestic and industrial filtration equipment. The plant's new fire-fighting system differs fundamentally from previous types. It is based on aerosol gas generators which extinguish fires without damaging the fabric of a building. The enterprise collective is pinning a lot of hope on the completion of the privatization process. Preparations for the distribution of shares are currently under way. The leaders of the enterprise believe that flotation will galvanize production and give greater autonomy—not least financially—to its subunits. In other words, people will be better placed to make their mark in the new economic conditions.

[Igor Barsukov, technical director of the Tensor plant] The process is under way and it's working. Our people are getting paid, producing output, and dispatching shipments to customers. Basically, everyone's learning about the market and about how to manufacture and sell.

[Reporter] As a result of wholesale conversion a roughly similar situation is being faced by another of the town's major enterprises—the Dubna Machine Building Plant, which specializes in high-tech aviation products. Its defense orders have currently fallen to 10 percent. This has led to the work force being cut by 2,600. Around 700 pieces of equipment are standing idle and 28,000 square meters of factory space is hardly being used. A solution

to this situation has been found by restructuring production and looking for markets based on the use of aviation technology. Such products currently include antenna systems for satellite communications and television, passenger and cargo ground-effect vehicles, and the world-class Su-28 aerobatic aircraft—which is in great demand in the West. Series production of the Bumble Bee agricultural aircraft, the top-class R-50 Robert seaplane, and a number of other products should begin in the very near future. As part of the structural changes at the plant, one of its subunits—a shop producing strollers—was reorganized a year ago into the Apeks independent commercial enterprise. This step has made it possible to provide work for all 500 of its workers and to organize production of a number of very important consumer goods. Apart from new stroller models, it is now also producing school desks and wheelbarrows—sales of which are already bringing in 450-500 million rubles a month. [passage omitted]

Irkutsk Shipyard Gearing for Production of Small Ships

PM2810150993 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0600 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Report by Nikolay Vidonov and Yuriy Kostomarov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] In order to avoid bankruptcy and closure, many enterprises in Irkutsk Oblast are developing new and different types of product.

[Vidonov] The navigation season on Lake Baykal and the Angara River is not over yet, but many ships have not taken part in it this year—spending all summer lying at anchor. The reason is very simple. Enterprises in the Angara region, having stopped almost all production and shipments of industrial goods, need river transport services less and less. This means that the East Siberia River

Shipping Line is using the minimum number of ships. Consequently, the fleet's Irkutsk Repair and Operations Base has not received a single order for a new ship this year. Yet the plant's potential is considerable. It has a well-developed production capacity and sufficiently well-trained specialists to be able to launch various classes of ships designed for different purposes. But, fortunately, the shipbuilders have not lost heart in this seemingly hopeless situation. They have rapidly restructured and are manufacturing profitable products that people need and for which there is a demand. The plant is now gearing itself to the construction of small ships in demand from geologists, fishermen, meteorologists, scientists, and residents of remote coastal villages. They are also suitable for tourists, travelers, or anyone wanting to take a summer vacation in the Lake Baykal or Angara River regions. [passage omitted]

Petersburg Shipyard Resumes Work on Nuclear Icebreaker

PM2710141593 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Oct 93

[Report by Sergey Dukhavin and Gennadiy Petrov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Dukhavin] A few months ago we reported on the dramatic fate of the nuclear icebreaker Ural, which is being built at the Baltic shipyard [in St. Petersburg]. At that time almost all work on it had stopped because of a lack of funding. But work now seems to be under way on the eastern stocks. Things were not this busy the last time we came. Admittedly, back then the Baltic Shipyard workers were already building bulk carriers, and the yard's order book for these and other ships was quite full. So the nuclear icebreaker was chronically unlucky. And it is only now that the Ministry of Transport has resumed limited financing for the construction of this vessel which the Arctic needs. [passage omitted]

International Affairs

Tarasyuk Praises Results of Christopher's Visit

LD2810173393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1708 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya for TASS]

[Text] Kiev October 28 TASS—U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's recent visit to Ukraine has shifted the accents in U.S.-Ukrainian relations from nuclear problems to a wider spectrum of problems, primarily political, economic, scientific, technological and trade cooperation, Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Tarasyuk told journalists on Thursday.

The United States has pledged to expand the system of general preferences to Ukraine, which will give the latter access to the American market. Additionally, the U.S. will grant Ukraine 330 million dollars in aid, including 175 million dollars to finance the elimination of nuclear weapons in the republic. Christopher also promised to retarget U.S. missiles from the Ukrainian territory.

Tarasyuk described as a positive result of the talks the United States' readiness to act as a mediator to resolve problems in Russian-Ukrainian relations. Ukraine welcomes this as a positive sign and calls for joint Russian-U.S.-Ukrainian talks on nuclear disarmament, the diplomat said.

Officials Sign Memorandum on Yugoslav Sanctions

LD2810171393 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1500 GMT
28 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev [no date as received]—On 28 October a memorandum about an agreement on a mission to promote the UN sanctions on the Danube against Yugoslavia was signed at the Ukraine State Customs Committee. Eduard Miroschnyenko, deputy chairman of the Ukraine State Customs Committee, signed the memorandum for Ukraine, and Swedish Ambassador to Ukraine Martin Hallqvist signed for the UN mission.

"In compliance with the UN Security Council resolutions concerning sanctions against Yugoslavia, special groups of international experts have been set up on the Danube to check the observance of these sanctions," said Borys Hudyma, chief of the board of international organizations at the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry. Eduard Miroschnyenko explained to journalists: "We pledged to control the passage of ships along the Danube, and for this purpose we must have the rights and possibilities to stop them."

Two draft projects for paying economic compensation to countries which suffer material losses due their observance of the UN sanctions against Yugoslavia (Ukraine is one such country) are now being considered at the United Nations.

Kravchuk Outlines Republic's European Aspirations

AU2810143093 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 25 Oct 93 p 9

[Interview with President Leonid Kravchuk "recorded by" Josef Vesely in Petersburg, Germany, on 23 October]

[Text] Bonn—[Vesely] Permit me, Mr. President, to start from a less pleasant perspective. Some Europeans think and are even saying that reforms are not making much progress in your country and that a certain nostalgia for the past is still rather unmistakable there.

[Kravchuk] I am aware of such opinions. In my view, however, the situation in Ukraine is rather more complicated. Such claims obviously do not take into consideration the fact that the radical transformations underway throughout the former USSR are having a severe and immediate impact on millions of people. We are trying—while maintaining a certain level of stability and social harmony—to provide for the most important things: To get ourselves out of the doldrums and enshrine democratic principles in our lives without dramatic conflicts. We are drafting a new constitution and free parliamentary elections will be held soon. We want to proceed from the experiences gained during the two years of our independence.

[Vesely] The main German participants in the forum—Chancellor Kohl and Foreign Minister Kinkel—spoke about the role of the national factor in European policy. What is Ukraine's view on this issue?

[Kravchuk] The Ukrainian nation is one that perceives its future in an independent state. Regardless of the difficulties associated with its renewal, we would like as soon as possible to endow it with components that proceed from tried-and-tested European experiences: A legal order guaranteeing democratic freedom, a market economy, the revival of Ukrainian culture, and legally guaranteed protection for the individuality of our national and ethnic minorities.

[Vesely] What are your international priorities?

[Kravchuk] We consider overcoming our artificial separation from Europe and Ukraine's return to a place among the leading European states to be one of our main priorities. Creating reliable security guarantees for the country is a fundamental aim. Ukraine's full integration later on will certainly also enhance the community of European nations.

[Vesely] Six months ago, you called for the establishment of regional zones of stability and security. Do you stand by this proposal now?

[Kravchuk] Not only is the proposal a valid one, but it was even bolstered by similar initiatives put forward by Polish President Walesa and French Prime Minister Balladur. I must point out to possible critics that this does not involve the new version of a military alliance in

place of the former Warsaw Pact. At the same time, I am convinced that NATO will be afforded a prominent position throughout our region.

[Vesely] So, you have no objections to countries like the Czech Republic trying to join the North Atlantic pact?

[Kravchuk] Ukraine understands such endeavors in the sense that its national security interests will be guaranteed definitely and that NATO will strive actively for a new role in establishing a pan-European security system. We also reconfirm our resolve to meet our obligations in arms control and to become a nuclear-free country in the future. We have handed over our tactical nuclear weapons to Russia for destruction and we have initiated the elimination of our strategic systems. It has become apparent, however, that everything will be more expensive than we had thought.

[Vesely] And what other plans does Ukraine have in relation to Europe?

[Kravchuk] We are preparing to sign an agreement on cooperation and partnership with the EC Commission. Along with the other countries of Central and East Europe, we are striving—first and foremost—to remove protectionist trade barriers. That would be of invaluable help to us.

In conclusion, I would just like to wish your newspaper—which enjoys a good reputation in Kiev—well in maintaining its success and I hope that it wins even more readers. According to what I have heard, this would lead to an increase in the number of supporters of democracy and reform in your country. This is also extraordinarily important for Ukraine and its Europeanness.

Kiev Hosts Trade, Economic Talks With Uzbekistan

AU2810132093 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 26 Oct 93 p 1

[Volodymyr Ilchenko report: "The Mechanism for Financial Settlements Has Been Specified"]

[Text] Uzbekistan and Ukrainian delegations have held negotiations in the Ukrainian capital on questions of trade and economic relations between the two countries. Heads of the delegations—Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan Anatoliy Voznenko and Ukraine's Vice Prime Minister Valentyn Landyk—signed a protocol specifying the principles of these relations until the end of 1993 and also ratified a corresponding agreement for next year.

Next year, exports and imports between Ukraine and Uzbekistan will constitute \$310 million. In accordance with the interbank agreement, which determines the mechanism for financial settlements, it was decided to convert the dollar prices into the national currencies and make payments in karbovantsi and rubles. There is, however, an impediment—at what rate of the dollar

should the prices be converted into the national money, as there are several rates. As A. Voznenko explained to our correspondent, the settlement prices will depend upon the ratio of the domestic prices of corresponding products in Uzbekistan and Ukraine.

Official on Border Accords Signed With Slovakia

AU2810132593 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 26 Oct 93 p 2

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Oleksandr Lytvynov: "Border Guards Cooperate"]

[Text] Valeriy Hubenko, head of Ukraine's State Committee for Questions of Guarding the State Border, while commenting upon the Slovak-Ukrainian documents on the state border between the two countries that were signed in Bratislava, called the relations between the Ukrainian and Slovak border guards friendly and good neighborly.

The sides signed two agreements—on the common border and on the regime on it, and also an intergovernmental accord on the exchange of individuals across the common state border and the protocol specifying the mechanism for implementing the accord.

These documents, which constitute a legal foundation for the activity of the border guards of the two countries, regulate and specify the procedure for drawing the line of the state border between Ukraine and Slovakia and regulate all questions pertaining to the border, said Valeriy Hubenko.

Currently there are on the territory of Ukraine about 20,000 refugees from the Far and Middle East, Africa, and Asia, many of whom want to cross Ukraine's western border.

Owing to the competent actions on the part of Ukrainian border guards at the Ukrainian-Slovak border, stressed Valeriy Hubenko in conclusion, not a single case of illegal border crossing has taken place this year. Our neighbors, for their part, are doing everything that they can to prevent trespassers from infiltrating into our territory.

Slovak Defense Minister Andrejcek Arrives on Visit

Met by Radetskyy

LD2810140793 Kiev UNIAK in Ukrainian 1200 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev, 28 Oct—Slovak Defense Minister Colonel General Imrich Andrejcek has arrived in Ukraine. He was met at Borispol Airport by Ukrainian Defense Minister Vitaliy Radetskyy. An official meeting between Vitaliy Radetskiy and Imrich Andrejcek took place at the Ukrainian Defense Ministry. This is the first official meeting of Colonel General Vitaliy Radetskyy in the post of defense minister.

An agreement "on bilateral military cooperation" between the Defense Ministries of Ukraine and Slovakia was signed.

Imrich Andrejcek will meet Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko in the course of the day.

Military Cooperation Accord Signed

*WS2910084193 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program
Network in Ukrainian 1100 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] We have already reported that about an hour ago at the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, a ceremony marking the signing of a military cooperation agreement between the Slovak Republic and Ukraine was concluded. The agreement is beneficial for both Republics and marks several primary paths for cooperation, especially in the areas of defense construction, practical cooperation, social protection of servicemen, material and technical supplies for the Armies of both countries, and scientific research. As is known, the past few weeks have been very productive and substantial in the military sphere for Ukraine. The legislature (?approved) the military doctrine and structure of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, and adopted a number of military laws. [passage indistinct] General (?Starodubtsev) said that this document is based on provisions of the agreement on cooperation and good-neighborly relations between the Slovak Republic and Ukraine signed on 24 June 1992, and we consider it the bedrock for military relations between our two countries. (?At the meeting, it was also noted) that the conclusion of the present agreement elevates relations between Ukraine and Slovakia to a qualitatively new level.

As for the purely military aspects of the agreement, it should be noted that a new military and political situation is taking shape in Europe today. It testifies to the fact that security of the states of this region can no longer be ensured by the old structures. Why? Because those structures were designed to provide a collective defense against an external enemy. The situation is changing. A positive step in this direction is the known initiative of Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk to create a zone of stability in Central and East Europe, which would include countries of the Baltic and Black Sea [words indistinct]. In the future, it would become an inalienable part of European security.

Further on Accord

*LD2810160393 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1500 GMT
28 Oct 93*

[Text] The ministries of defense of Ukraine and Slovakia have signed an agreement on bilateral cooperation in Kiev. An official meeting between Vitaliy Radetskyy, minister of defense of Ukraine, and Imrich Andrejcek, minister of defense of the Slovak Republic, was held on 28 October. "The new military-political situation evolving in central Europe shows that the security of

states in this region cannot be guaranteed by the old treaties, which were created and counted on collective defense against an indirect external political enemy," Vitaliy Radetskyy noted. The sides signed an agreement between the ministries of defense of Ukraine and the Slovak Republic on bilateral military cooperation. It envisages several directions for interaction, particularly in extending the program of practical cooperation, social security for servicemen, material and technical cooperation, scientific and research activity, and so forth. Imrich Andrejcek stressed that this agreement is not a military pact. It envisages only military cooperation between two neighboring states.

Meets With Kravchuk

*LD2810202993 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya
Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Today Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk received Slovak Defense Minister Imrich Andrejcek who is on an official visit to our country at the invitation of Ukraine's defense minister. Positive influence of bilateral military cooperation between Ukraine and the Slovak Republic, consolidation of peace and security in the Central and East European region, such was one of the main themes of the conversation.

President Leonid Kravchuk pointed out that both countries had broad opportunities for expanding contacts in various spheres, the military field included. The importance of political stability, based on democratic transformations in the countries of the region for the consolidation of European security, was emphasized in the course of the meeting. From this point of view, the necessity of a peaceful settlement of conflict situations in certain regions of the former Soviet bloc also acquires special significance. Other issues of mutual interest were also discussed.

Meets With Zlenko

*LD2810202693 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya
Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Today Slovakia's defense minister met Ukraine's Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko. Issues pertaining to the development of mutually beneficial cooperation of the two countries and political aspects of this cooperation were discussed. During the conversation issues of democratic transformations in Ukraine and Slovakia were raised.

Tarasyuk Rejects Kozyrev Charges on Nuclear Arms

*LD2810230793 Moscow INTERFAX in English
2033 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Tarasyuk said that he "would like to hear from Minister Kozyrev what commitments Ukraine did not honor or broke as far as nuclear weapons are concerned." This

was his comment on what Kozyrev had to say about Kiev's position on nuclear disarmament (see Interfax's 18:00 bulletin).

According to Tarasyuk, Ukraine is not a party to START-I, Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty or the Lisbon protocol until it ratifies them.

The Ukrainian deputy foreign minister said that his country could not be accused of violating the Massandra agreements of September 3rd, which had been signed by the leaders of Ukraine and Russia, because these documents also had to be ratified.

Tarasyuk accused Russia of "refusing to resolve the issue of utilizing the nuclear warheads of the missiles stationed in Ukraine when it rejected Kiev's formula that a compensation was in order for the tactical weapons removed from Ukraine in 1992."

Figures on Gas, Oil Production, Russian Deliveries

WS2910115693 Kiev UNIAN OHLYADY, KOMENTARI, PROHNOZY in Ukrainian No 21 25 Oct 93

[Report by Viktor Dubovyy and Volodymyr Tymonin: "On Actual Situation in Oil Production and Deliveries in Ukraine"]

[Text] Finally, oil deliveries from Russia have resumed. From the beginning of this year to 1 October, 18,114 million tonnes of oil had been delivered to Ukraine, including 15,390 million tonnes from Russia and 2,589 million tonnes produced in Ukraine.

Currently, 50,000-70,000 tonnes of oil are coming to Ukraine every day. Over the first 18 days of October, 837,000 tonnes of oil were delivered from Russia and 152,000 tonnes were produced in Ukraine. In the fourth quarter of this year, oil deliveries from Russia will total 7 million tonnes—2.5 million tonnes in both October and November, and 2 million tonnes in December. Altogether, 26 million tonnes of oil is supposed to arrive from Russia in 1993. In accordance with a draft program, 35 million tonnes are to be utilized in Ukraine in 1994, including 4.2 million tonnes produced by domestic companies. This portion could be more significant, if oil production was stimulated by a wise pricing policy.

Activities of our government do not display an understanding of the necessity of a protectionist policy for our oil and gas producers. Prices paid for Ukrainian oil and gas are significantly lower than world prices, and even those in Russia. In the fourth quarter of this year, Russia is delivering oil and gas at \$90 for one tonne of oil and \$62 for 1,000 cubic meters of gas. At the same time, prices for Ukrainian oil and gas are 620,000 karbovanetses [K] for one tonne of oil and K49,920 for 1,000 cubic meters of gas, which is leading to the huge Ukrhazprom company toward bankruptcy.

While earlier Russian oil was twice as cheap as Ukrainian, today it is 3.2 times cheaper, and gas even 27.4 times cheaper. This testifies to the fact that Ukrainian oil and gas producers, with the Ministry of Economy's help, have to endure much more complicated conditions than their Russian colleagues and are practically unable to increase production of domestic energy sources.

Nation To Get 40% of Soviet Stake in Satellite Group

WS2910095493 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0900 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Representatives of the Ukrainian National Space Agency have held successful negotiations at the session of the (Inmartak) Assembly. (Inmartak) is the largest international organization of mobile satellite communications and unites more than 60 countries. In particular, resolved was the division of former Soviet property in (Inmartak) between Ukraine and Russia. According to a preliminary agreement, Ukraine will receive 40 percent of the former Soviet assets. The (Inmartak) management recognizes the membership of Ukraine's National Space Agency in this organization.

EC Ready To Finance Economic Programs

LD2810190993 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev, [no date as received]—Mykola Popov, chairman of the Supreme Council's commission for issues of basic industries of the national economy, met with (Luis Moreno Abati), chief of the European Community's mission in Ukraine, on 28 October. The European Community is ready to grant Ukraine financial assistance for structural changes in the power and other sectors of Ukraine's economy, but for specific projects, which will be introduced without fail, (Luis Moreno Abati) said.

The European Community is offering Ukraine free assistance in four respects: the European experience of labor, scientific research, intelligence, and economic argumentation. It was stressed that Ukraine's economy will need structural reconstruction in the next 20 years. It may also be worth thinking about developing open coal mines.

Agricultural Cooperation Accord Signed With Finland

LD2810215093 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] An agreement on economic, scientific, technical, and industrial cooperation in agriculture was signed in Kiev today between the Ukrainian Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Cooperation between Ukrainian and Finnish agricultural producers will from now on be carried out in the following forms: exchange of scientific

and technical information, samples of seeds, new machinery, equipment, and scientific appliances for carrying out tests.

The agreement, signed by (Reyno Uronen), deputy minister of agriculture and forestry of Finland, and Anatoliy Kovalenko, Ukraine's deputy minister of agriculture and food, also envisions an exchange of specialists with the aim of training farmers. Finland's ambassador to Ukraine, Erik Ulfstedt, took part in the ceremony of signing the agreement.

National Affairs

Supreme Council Decree Appoints Procurator General

AU2810131493 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 23 Oct 93 p 2

["Ukraine's Supreme Council Decree on Appointing Ukraine's Procurator General" issued in Kiev on 21 Oct]

[Text] Ukraine's Supreme Council decrees as follows:

1. To appoint DATSYUK, Vladyslav Volodymyrovych as Ukraine's Procurator General.
2. To authorize V.V. Datsyuk to submit, within one week, his proposals on the composition of the Collegium of Ukraine's Procurator General's Office for approval by Ukraine's Supreme Council.

Chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council I. Plyushch

Kiev, 21 October 1993

Parliament Passes Legislation on Armed Forces

AU2810132995 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 23 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Military Security: There Is a Legal Foundation"]

[Text] A whole package of legislative acts on issues of Ukraine's military security was adopted on 21 October by the evening session of the country's Supreme Council. The acts included the law "On Preparation for Mobilization and on Mobilization" and a decree on the temporary suspension of imposing land taxes upon military units and the training grounds of Ukraine's Armed Forces.

The session also introduced changes and alterations to the laws "On the General Military Duty and Military Service," "On the Defense of Ukraine," and "On Ukraine's Armed Forces."

Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk took part in the work and spoke at the Supreme Council's plenary sessions.

Reasons Behind Lukyanenko's Resignation Viewed

WS2810100093 Kiev KHRESHCHATYK in Ukrainian 21 Oct 93 p 2

[Commentary by Yuriy Lukanov: "Why Is Lukyanenko Returning?"]

[Text] One of the latest political developments is that Ukrainian Ambassador to Canada Levko Lukyanenko has tendered his resignation. So, having served one year in the diplomatic corps, the dissident, who spent 26 years in prison, is returning to Ukraine.

He was appointed ambassador following his overwhelming defeat in the latest presidential elections. There is no doubt that no other diplomatic appointment has sparked as much controversy as this one. Some kept saying that, having sent Lukyanenko into diplomatic exile, President Kravchuk got rid of one of the most influential opposition leaders. Others claimed that Lukyanenko sold himself in exchange for a cushy job.

Lukyanenko's resignation has triggered many disputes. According to KIEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI, Yuriy Serhyeyev, head of the information service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has explained this event as follows: "Levko Lukyanenko believes that he has accomplished his mission of 'establishing bridges' between the two countries, and until a new ambassador is appointed, Andriy Veselkovskyy will be performing his duties." There have been rumors that Lukyanenko either messed up his mission or has decided to run for the office of Ukrainian president.

Activities of no Ukrainian ambassador have ever been accompanied by so many scandals as there have been during the diplomatic career of Levko Lukyanenko, who, by all appearances, is a quiet and sober-minded man. Even though he was not involved in the first scandal, nevertheless, it was connected with the name of the ambassador. An argument over the purchase of an embassy building was held between Erast Hutsulak, a well-known Canadian businessman of Ukrainian descent, and the Congress of Ukrainians in Canada [KUK]. Finally, the building was bought by Erast Hutsulak, and the ambassador's residence by the KUK. According to Lukyanenko's own words, they leased those buildings for a symbolic payment, and they are eventually planning to donate them to Ukraine.

Lukyanenko claims that the problems with accommodation diverted his attention from more important issues, such as establishing diplomatic relations. Finally, when all the problems had been solved, on 1 December 1992, an opening ceremony of the embassy was held. Everybody asked about this event has pointed to the fact that Lukyanenko, in accordance with an old Ukrainian custom, before crossing the threshold, let a rooster loose in the embassy. The embassy often looked like the ambassador's apartment. One could often run into his granddaughter visiting the ambassador's office. The

Canadian magazine *GLOBE AND MAIL* portrayed Lukyanenko as follows: "Mr. Lukyanenko, with his fat 'u'-shaped moustache and an inclination to deliver fiery speeches, is a colorful person among Ottawa's diplomatic circles."

While the discrepancies over the embassy had—how shall we say—an "internal-exile" nature, then the next scandal gained international publicity. Two Ukrainian diplomats, Oleksiy Rodionov and Yevhen Kucher, applied for political refuge. Oleksiy Rodionov, an Ukrainian immigrant, had worked at the former USSR Embassy and was later hired by the newly opened Ukrainian Embassy. Yevhen Kucher, before coming to Canada, had been a member of the Supreme Council's Foreign Affairs Committee. They applied for refugee status, after the Foreign Ministry had recalled them to Kiev following a car accident, in which Kucher and Rodionov had wrecked two embassy vehicles. The crash took place in October 1992, at night, in the vicinity of the former Soviet Embassy, and was a nail in their coffins. Kucher claims that Lukyanenko has a "labor-camp mentality" and it is not possible to cooperate with him. Rodionov maintains that Lukyanenko was accusing him of espionage for Russia. The ambassador himself states that alcohol abuse was the reason for the diplomats' dismissal.

Soon after that, a mishap with Press Attache Borys Bilashivskyy came to international attention. After he too had been recalled by the Foreign Ministry, he locked himself in his apartment and refused to return to Kiev. It was said that the reason for his dismissal was also alcohol abuse. Finally, he was convinced to return to Kiev. Lukyanenko was trying to explain the problems with the staff as the natural process of establishing any organization.

One more scandal happened during a visit by Vyacheslav Chornovil, leader of the Ukrainian opposition and one of Lukyanenko's brothers-in-arms from the dissident struggle. Lukyanenko refused to hold an official meeting with him, claiming that Chornovil was not a top-level official.

The fuss over a portrait of Lukyanenko also became well known. He ordered it from a Canadian painter, and let KUK pay the \$6,000 bill.

In an interview with a UNIAN correspondent, Lukyanenko has stressed that the embassy is actively contributing to the establishment of economic relations between Ukraine and Canada. In particular, an agreement to build an electric power plant in Kiev's Darnytskyi Rayon has been signed. A textile factory from Montreal has built a few textile factories in Ukraine, and now, their products are very popular in Canada. Mr. Soltas, a Canadian entrepreneur, has opened a cheese factory in Ukraine. His products have been praised by Dutch experts.

According to Lukyanenko's words, during his diplomatic mission, Canada changed its attitude toward Ukraine.

Continued aid to Ukraine depends on whether it signs the treaties on nuclear weapons.

Summarizing the ambassadorial career of Levko Lukyanenko, it could be said that he has accomplished a very difficult task: He has "ignited" the embassy's machinery. However, from a different perspective, the permanent scandals have not contributed to Ukraine's positive image. If there had been someone else in this post, he would have been fired following the first scandal. It was not easy to recall such a renowned person as Lukyanenko. Apparently, having understood that one cannot hold a diplomatic post while being a controversial person, Levko Hryhorovych has tendered his resignation. Had he not done this, he would have been advised to do so, sooner or later.

One question arises with regard to Lukyanenko's return. He will surely make attempts to return to Ukrainian political life. Meanwhile, the office of the Ukrainian Republican Party leader, which was held earlier by Lukyanenko, has been assumed by his friend Mykhaylo Horyn. What is going to happen in this situation? Another conflict?

Investigation Into Chernobyl Nuclear Fuel Theft

*WS2810141193 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program
Network in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Several days ago we reported on the disappearance of a certain amount of nuclear fuel from the Chernobyl AES [nuclear power plant]. This was also reported by several Ukrainian papers. Many of our listeners turned to us requesting more detailed and objective information on that incident. Here is our correspondent Eduard Kotenko.

[Kotenko] First of all, let me remind you about what took place. On 25 October, at the end of the working day, it was found that two of the 36 tvls [heat emitting element] had been dismantled in the room where fresh fuel is prepared for the No. 3 nuclear unit. The time and purpose of the dismantling, as well as the whereabouts of the stolen tvls are being determined by a special commission and other competent agencies. In a phone conversation, Tetyana Yahidz, public relations expert at the Ukrainian State Committee for Use of Atomic Energy, confirmed this information. She noted that the dismantling does not affect the AES's operation and constitutes no nuclear or radiation threat. In her words, this can be explained by the low content of uranium-235 in the fuel rods, whose total weight amounts to 129.6 grams and the fact that the missing rods had not yet been exposed to irradiation within the reactor. Several minutes later, I called Mykola Sorokin, general director of the Chernobyl AES Amalgamation and asked him to update what I had heard from Tetyana Yahidz.

[Sorokin] Actually, there is nothing more I can add. A commission was actually set up and relevant agencies are investigating the case. All possible versions are being looked into, beginning with the assumption that the

dismantling might have been planned as part of a regular procedure and performed before the accident and then shipped to the plant, with the corresponding documents lost somewhere, and ending with deliberate theft. Naturally, I cannot disclose any information until the investigation is completed.

[Kostenko] To learn the position of the Ukrainian Ministry of Environmental Protection on this, I turned to the Administration of Nuclear and Radiation Safety. Kostyantyn Rud, deputy chief of this department of the Environmental Ministry, emphasized that what happened at the AES underscores the administration's lack of proper control over the station's operation and its nuclear fuel storage system. As in the past, the Chernobyl AES still presents a huge threat. The ministry considers inexpedient further operation of this station. Comforting assurances by the heads of the State Atomic Committee and Chernobyl AES about the environmental safety regarding those infamous 130 grams of uranium-235 that disappeared under still-unestablished conditions, raise many doubts. However, the most alarming issue is in whose hands those two tvels are now, and how they might be used or have already been used.

Tatar Majlis Head Opposes Crimea Presidential Election

AU2810131893 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 23 Oct 93 p 1

[RUKH-PRESS report]

[Text] The Crimean Tatars Majlis has canceled the planned actions of civil disobedience, thereby expressing its approval of the policy of the Crimean Supreme Council, which has agreed to grant the Crimean Tatars a quota of 14 seats in the peninsula's supreme authority, which will be elected on 27 March [1994] and will be composed of 98 deputies. "As regards the election of the Crimean president planned for 16 January, I am categorically against this election," Majlis Chairman Mustafa Dzhemilev told RUKH-PRESS. "There cannot be two presidents in a single state. Presidential elections will not resolve any problems, but will, on the contrary, increase the tension." The final position of the Tatars with regard to the election of the Crimean Supreme Council and president will be determined by the Crimean Tatars Kurultay [assembly], which will be held on 27 November [1993].

New Crimean Party Vows To Protect Rights of Ukrainians

AU2810131693 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 26 Oct 93 p 4

[Oleksandr Pilat report from the Crimea: "An All-Crimean Ukrainian Party Is Being Created"]

[Text] On 21 October, an organizing committee of a new all-Crimean party—the Ukrainian Civic Congress of the Crimea—was created in Simferopol. As our

correspondent was informed by Petro Volvach, a well-known Crimean biologist and member of the organizing committee, the main reason for creating the party is the Crimean Supreme Council's refusal to grant Crimean branches of all-Ukrainian parties the right to take an active part in the elections for the Crimean parliament. The new party will advocate strengthening the Crimean Republic as an integral part of Ukraine and building Ukrainian statehood in the Crimea, and will protect the rights of the Ukrainian population in the autonomous republic. Ihor Banakh was elected as head of the organizing committee. It is planned to hold the constituent congress of the new party on 28 November in Simferopol.

Communist Party Head To Run for Crimean Presidency

MK2810143593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 3

[Unattributed report under the "NEGA Reports" rubric: "Crimea"]

[Text] Leonid Grach, first secretary of the Crimean Communist Party, has announced his bid for the presidency of the Republic of Crimea.

Leonid Grach said that he vigorously opposed "this bourgeois structure that is incompatible with the socialist and communist order," and that if he is elected president of the Republic of Crimea he would immediately abolish this government institution. Leonid Grach believes that he has a chance to enter the second round of the presidential elections together with Nikolay Bagrov, chairman of the Crimea Supreme Soviet, or with Igor Kasatonov, first deputy commander-in-chief of the Russian Federation Navy. "In any event," Grach said, "I will finish second after the first round of elections. People are tired of high prices and skyrocketing inflation. We will bring the Republic of Crimea back to the socialist order, where there will be no place for black marketeering disguised behind the fine word of "commerce."

Ivano-Frankovsk Deputy Calls For 'Ethnic Cleansing'

PM2810142793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 7

[Unattributed report: "Russians and Jews 'Superfluous'"]

[Text] Aleksandr Volkov, deputy of the Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast Soviet and deputy director of the Russian gymnasium, telephoned the editorial office. He announced

that a recent session of the soviet discussed the question of ethnic cleansing in the oblast—the deportation of Russians and Jews.

This "program" was put forward from the official platform by one Tsapovich, a member of the local nationalist "State-Independent Ukraine" organization, who was recently released after being arrested for an administrative violation. He was given the floor by soviet chairman Stepan Volkovetskiy.

Deputy Volkov protested resolutely in connection with the attempt to discuss this question at the session and left the sessions hall. The session was broadcast live to the square in front of the soviet building. So the deputy became the victim of the nationalist crowd which had gathered outside the building. He was insulted and the members of his family were threatened with physical reprisal. People were heard shouting: "Muscovite scum, go back to Russia!" and "Jews, go back to Israel!"

Belarus

Shushkevich Urges Adoption of New Constitution

LD2810224093 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service
in English 2200 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] The speaker of the Belarusian Parliament, Stanislav Shushkevich, believes it will be necessary to adopt a new constitution already on the ninth of next month, at the forthcoming session of the country's parliament. Shushkevich is certain that this will help improve the situation in all spheres of the country's life. At the same time the speaker of parliament did not rule out that most people's deputies may vote against the new constitution. Shushkevich believes that in that case a new law must be adopted on early elections to the Supreme Soviet and a new parliament must be elected already next March.

Moldova

Snegur Issues Decrees on Reforming Economy

LD2810205693 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1715 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] President Mircea Snegur has signed a decree on additional measures to stabilize the social-economic and financial situation and to develop industry and other branches of the state economy.

The decree forms a special non-budget conversion fund for 1993. It also outlines priority industries of the national economy.

Another presidential decree forms a state property fund which is to carry out, on behalf of the government, powers of the owner of state property. The fund is to protect Moldova's property rights and interests on its territory and outside the republic, promote economic reforms and attract foreign investments.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Andrey Sangeli, who returned Wednesday night from Paris and Brussels, has told Interfax that at their conference the donor-countries promised financial aid to help Moldova move towards free-market relations. Sangeli said that Western experts had given a positive assessment to the activities of the Moldovan government in this direction.

The premier said that Western countries will first help boost the national currency campaign as well as soften the financial situation due to the budget deficit in the republic. Sangeli said that the National currency would be introduced in Moldova later in November.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: At present coupons are in circulation in Moldova. Their exchange rate is one ruble = 1.9 coupons. Coupons worth 5 ley = 5,000 rubles are also currently in circulation in the republic.

Parliament Discusses CIS, Electoral Issues

AU2810123893 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English
1855 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 27/10/1993—The session of the Presidium of the Moldovan Parliament took place yesterday with the participation of President Snegur, states the parliamentary press service. The session discussed Moldova's signing of the CIS Creation Agreement and of the agreement to create the economic community. Vice-Premier Valentin Cunev presented a report on this question. With 16 pros and 4 cons, the presidium decided that the parliament should resume at its ordinary session the examination of the ratification of these documents. Considering the current situation, the presidium consented that Snegur sign the CIS Agreement and the Treaty on Creating the Economic Community. It considers reasonable that Moldova takes part in the activity of these organizations. The presidium approved a decision about the need for Moldova to adhere to the Treaty on Nuclear Weapons. At the talks about the electoral campaign, the presidium proposed that the Supreme Court create on 28 October the Central Electoral Committee. The presidium decided to edit a collection of normative acts on elections on 3 November, 1993 in 35,000 copies. Also, a special editorial board at the Moldovan radio and TV will be organized. It will explain the law on elections, display the flow of the electoral period and grant time on the air to parties, social-political organizations and independent candidates. This time will be established by the Central Electoral Committee. The presidium obliged the government to buy paper to print electoral materials. Nicolae Misail was dismissed from editor-in-chief of the newspaper SFATUL TARII (Country Court) at his request. Andrei Hropotinschi was appointed for this post.

14th Army Official Denies Involvement in Region

AU2810140693 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English
1855 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 27/10/1993—In an article published in the newspaper edited by the 14th Army's Command, Nikolay Zligostev, head of the Security Service of the 14th Army declared that the Security Service of the Russian Ministry of Security is not involved in activities against Moldova and Dniester. Asked about the character of the Security Service's activities in this zone of the former USSR, Zligostev stated that the "reality implies occasional collaboration of Russian services with legal bodies on both banks of River Dniester."

Paper Claims Moscow Not To Break Ties With Tiraspol

AU2810165793 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English
1855 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 27/10/1993—Kremlin does not want to break the ties with Tiraspol; it tolerated the participation of the Dniester commandos in the

events in Moscow, states Igor Sichka in the newspaper NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA (THE NEW DAILY PAPER). Although authorities and reporters say the "Dniester" battalion comprising 30 to 150 soldiers was involved in the defence of the "White House" building. "I have seen none of them," says Igor Sichka. According to some sources of the Moldovan Embassy in Moscow, Russia transferred in six months about 6 billion rubles to the Tiraspol regime. A part of this sum is now in the accounts of some Moscow national-patriotic organizations. "The shipment of Dniester volunteers to Moscow was a way of payment by Dniester of its debts towards Russia," concludes the newspaper.

Tiraspol Union Leader Fears Chisinau Invasion

AU2810165593 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English
1855 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 27/10/1993—The Moldovan leadership could invade Dniester; the liberation of the Ilascu group [on trial in Tiraspol for alleged pro-Chisinau plotting] could be its justification, says the declaration of the Dniester Union of Political Movements and Parties. The Tiraspol radio broadcasted this declaration yesterday. Vasiliy Yakovlev, leader of the union, signed it. The declaration contains an appeal to the UN and other international organizations to intervene "not to allow a Moldovan military aggression in the Moldovan Dniester Republic."

Republican Party Rejects Union With Romania, Russia

AU2810123693 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English
1855 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 27/10/1993—Victor Puscas, chairman of the Moldovan Republican Party [PRM], stated to the Russian newspaper NEZAVISIMAYA MOLDOVA (Independent Moldova) that the PRM separates itself both from those striving for unification with Romania and for restoration of the USSR. This is because "both of them try to liquidate Moldova's statehood." "Republicans firmly declare: We are home, on our Moldovan ancestors' land," says Puscas. In his opinion, leaders, functionaries, bureaucrats show a frank wish to be governors in Moldova. "According to the experience of the Western democracy, the policy of centrism finds a social basis in middle layers of the society." In Moldova, this layer is very little, but "together with the development of market economy and privatization it will increase and become a natural base of the republicanism." Puscas asserts that nowadays the centrism of PRM is a "leftist centrism." It is so because the party looks for ways out of the economic crisis and to "the regulated market economy": Also, it wants guarantees of survival and social protection of those who will hardly stand the reforms.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev: Mobile, Well-Equipped Army Essential

*LD2810173093 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1455 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Kazakhstan is to restructure the army, "almost totally renew all armed services, update their weaponry, and slash their numerical strength," President Nazarbayev declared on Thursday during an inspection near Almaty of the 385 Motorized Infantry Regiment and of an airborne assault brigade of the Kapchagai Garrison.

In his opinion, the army must be mobile, well-equipped and trained, and complete with experienced officers. In personnel training, the republic intends to maintain contact not only with Russia (its strategic ally) but also with EC countries and NATO. "We would like to apply the best the world's armies have," Nazarbayev said.

He described the national military doctrine as defensive and aimed at guarding the country's borders and safeguarding its territorial integrity and independence. "Kazakhstan is not an aggressive state. Nor does it have territorial claims on any country," the president remarked.

In Nazarbayev's words, Kazakhstan is ensured peace and good relations with the neighboring states thanks to the 1991 Friendship and Cooperation Treaty with Russia, the newly signed documents with China on the absence of mutual territorial claims, and the agreements with Iran on non-intervention in each other's political, economic and religious affairs.

Nazarbayev: Republic Must Introduce Own Currency

*LD2810205393 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1715 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Russia refuses to exchange Kazakhstan's old rubles for new ones. The republic is faced with the need to introduce its own currency, President Nazarbayev said Wednesday when he visited the Kirov factory in Almaty. He told workers about his talk October 27th with Russian leadership on the topic of Kazakhstan joining the new ruble zone.

We must decide for ourselves, said Nazarbayev, because we have been using old banknotes for four months already. We are unable to pay wages to workers since we are dependent on Russia. He said that a treaty on payments would be signed with Russia and the exchange rate set.

The president said that he had sent to Kyrgyzstan a team of experts to study the experience of the neighboring country concerning the introduction of its own monetary unit.

Parliament Grants Nazarbayev Powers

LD2910111893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 29 Oct 93

[Text] At a closed sitting on 28 October, the Kazakhstani parliament granted President Nursultan Nazarbayev

powers to introduce a national currency in the republic. Speaking at a meeting with heads of defense sector enterprises in Almaty today, Nursultan Nazarbayev stressed that he is being forced into this step by the position of Moscow with whom no agreement has been reached on Kazakhstan joining the new ruble zone. We made every concession but Russia's last word, the proposal that billions of dollars be placed with it on deposit, could not be met, stressed the Kazakhstani president. In other words, Moscow set the condition that the provision of new Russian rubles had to be guaranteed by Kazakhstan's gold and currency reserves, and what could not be covered by gold would be added to the republic's state debt. That was Interfax information.

Kyrgyzstan

President, Parliament Backpedal From Fresh Elections

LD2810152793 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By reporter A. Knyazev, from Bishkek; from the "Vesti" newscast]

Like Russia, Kyrgyzstan is getting ready for elections, but the situation is somewhat different here. The Orient, as we know, is a subtle place. Whereas, in Russia, the former deputies of the former Supreme Soviet sabotaged the adoption of a new constitution, their Kyrgyz colleagues successfully adopted a constitution back in May—adopted it, then forgot all about it. A parliament, which was elected in the socialist era, continues to carry out its functions in defiance of the constitution. The president and government, which have not subjected themselves to reelection or reappointment, are, to all intents and purposes, illegitimate. The constitutional court, which for six months now has existed only in the person of its chairman, is not operating.

A new election law is being drafted. It remains to be seen whether it is adopted at the parliamentary session which is to be held shortly. What is the point if the deputies, the president, and many of the so-called opposition parties are convinced that calling fresh elections is unnecessary? The overwhelming majority of the population treat political debate with weary indifference. So, unlike Russia, there is no election excitement in Kyrgyzstan, no acute confrontation between branches of power and parties, all of which are eager to retain the status quo.

However, the lid can blow off in places where people talk in subtleties.

Tajikistan CIS Peacekeeping Forces Commander Visits

LD2910103393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0956 GMT 29 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Maynayevev]

[text] Bishkek, 29 Oct—Colonel-General Boris Pyankov, commander of the CIS coalition peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan, has paid a brief working visit to the capital of Kyrgyzstan. An ITAR-TASS correspondent has been told that he and the group of officers who came with him had a meeting with Acting Kyrgyzstan President Feliks Kulov, local generals, and the leadership of a number of ministries. Problems of the functioning of the CIS peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan were discussed, as well as matters relating to the provision of troops for them.

Some 600 volunteers from Kyrgyzstan are now serving in the CIS forces on the border with Afghanistan.

Tajikistan

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

LD2810152193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1353 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Dushanbe October 28 TASS—Anatoliy Adamishin, Russian President Boris Yeltsin's special envoy and first deputy foreign minister, arrived in the Central Asian Republic of Tajikistan on Thursday for an official visit. On arrival at the airport, he told local and foreign reporters that his visit aimed to discuss with the Tajik leadership the process of stabilization of the social and political situation in the troubled republic following the August meeting of the Russian and Central Asian heads of state and the September CIS summit which dealt with the situation in Tajikistan.

Adamishin noted that the Tajik Government had managed to make a certain breakthrough in settling some conflict issues. However, a number of problems is still to be solved. Yeltsin's envoy made it certain that Russia's stand on this matter remained unchangeable: the Tajik Government should do its best to find a peaceful solution to the conflict and to enter dialogue with sound opposition forces. In his turn, Adamishin pledged that any attempt at outside aggression against the Central Asian republic would be resolutely thwarted.

The visit by the Russian first deputy foreign minister to Tajikistan continues.

Further on Adamishin Arrival

LD2810171893 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1455 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] First Deputy Russian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin has arrived in Dushanbe on what, he said, was a mission from President Yeltsin. He is to meet Tajik Parliament Speaker Imamali Rakhmanov and Prime Minister Abdumalik Abdullodzhonov. Under discussion will be compliance with the agreements to settle the situation in Tajikistan.

Adamishin believes that in some respects the situation in Tajikistan has changed but not for the better. Russia still favors the political solution of the existing problems.

Adamishin said that such an approach did not exclude the use of force, if needed. However, it is necessary to find a common language with the forces of different political orientation.

Adamishin will stay in Tajikistan until October 30.

Territorial Border Defense Units Under Review

LD2910094293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0610 GMT 29 Oct 93

[By TIA "Khovar" correspondent Sadanshno Nafasshoyev—TASS]

[Text] Khorog (Republic of Tajikistan) 29 Oct—A group of military experts, led by Aleksey Tsapin, first deputy commander in chief of the CIS peacekeeping forces, has arrived in the Pamirs. The aim of the visit is to resolve issues concerning the further strengthening of the Tajik-Afghan border in the Pamirs sector. Being studied in particular is the possibility of setting up military territorial defense units made up of local young people in this mountainous region. The military experts have left for Darvazskiy, Vanchskiy, Rushanskiy and other border rayons of the Pamirs where they will study resources and facilities and decide on what areas require armed forces to guard the state border and defend the mountainous region. The territorial defense units' requirements for military equipment are also being determined.

Turkmenistan

Niyazov Speaks on Introduction of New Currency

PM2810135193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 7

[Report by Georgiy Smolnikov: "Manat Seizes Its Chance"]

[Text] Ashgabat—On the eve of the convening of a routine session of Turkmenistan's supreme organ of state power, the Khalk Maslakhaty (People's Council), rumors began to creep around banking circles to the effect that following advice from experts on the EEC, whose Brussels headquarters the republic's president recently visited, the country will nonetheless enter the new ruble zone. Saparmurad Turkmenbashi [Niyazov], however, is not altering his direction and the keystone of the agenda was the question of introducing a national currency. In the opinion of the Turkmenistan leader "a national currency is the herald and defender of true independence." He also said that the portrayal of the first president on manats and tengas will increase twofold his responsibility to the people and the country's future.

And so the population is cautiously awaiting currency changes. The prospects are so far being depicted to the people as rosy although the president has made some amendments to previously proclaimed plans, as he announced to the participants in the Khalk Maslakhaty session. The proposed exchange rate for the manat

against the dollar is 2:1. The government intends that one Turkmen manat should be worth 500 rubles in Russian currency. The president confirmed that the state, which is rich in natural and raw material resources, has all necessary prerequisites exist for such a high quotation. The minimum living standard has been set at 150 manats. That will be the lower limit for pensions and student grants. The average wage for workers in the budget-controlled sphere is promised to be 400 manats.

Answering a timid question from the floor about the feasibility of such a substantial purchasing power for the currency (the questioner obviously had in mind the virtually empty shelves in the state trade stores and the exorbitant prices in commercial stores where, for instance, you cannot buy a Russian color television set for less than 700,000 "Soviet" rubles) Turkmenbashi gave an assurance that the market would gradually be filled with goods. He is more concerned with the position of the needy, so he will do everything to ensure that a kilogram of bread will cost 10 tengas, a kilogram of flour and sugar 50 tengas, a liter of milk 15 tengas, while meat is "promised" at 4 manats a kilogram and gasoline at 25 tengas [presumably a liter]. The president did not conceal the fact that it will be incredibly difficult to achieve this but "the government will fulfill its promise to the people."

Returning to the question of the poor, Saparmurad Niyazov cited rather unexpected figures. Back in the summer the population was told that all rubles accumulated in citizens' personal accounts in savings banks as of 1 September would be exchanged for manats without restrictions. But it has turned out that nearly 93 percent of investors have no more than 10,000 rubles in their savings books. The remaining 7 percent have billions... The president promised a rather original solution: In connection with the introduction of the national currency with a relatively high exchange rate against the ruble all investments will be increased by a factor of eight. It is true he did not specify whether this measure will apply to that 7 percent of investors...

Uzbekistan

Karimov Continues French Trip, Deposits Gold Bullion

LD2910000393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1920 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Batyrev]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct—Considerable attention has been given to the questions of ensuring stability and security in Central Asia, the situation in Tajikistan and Afghanistan, and the relations between the CIS member countries during the talks between French President Francois Mitterrand, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, and myself, Uzbekistan's President

Islam Karimov, who has been on a state visit to France since Monday, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent.

According to I. Karimov, the future of the economic union recently formed by the majority of CIS countries, the problems of bringing the "ruble zone" into operation, and the prospects for integration within the CIS were the subject of detailed discussions with the French leaders.

The president said that the prospects for developing cooperation in all spheres between France and Uzbekistan were the main focus of attention. Documents that have no precedent in the past have been signed during this visit—a treaty on friendship and cooperation between France and Uzbekistan and some specialized agreements—and they should help to develop this cooperation, said I. Karimov said.

President Karimov also visited the Paris mayor's office today and held a meeting with Philippe Seguin, the president of the National Assembly.

The president of Uzbekistan had a conversation with journalists at the headquarters of one of the leading French banks, Credit Commercial de France (CCF), immediately after the signing there of an agreement of intent, envisaging the financing by CCF of a project to build an oil processing plant in Bukhara, which is to be implemented by the French firm Technip. Answering a question on the guarantees his country can give to foreign investors, the president of Uzbekistan emphasized the stability and security which characterize the situation in the country, and which, in his words, advantageously distinguish the situation in Uzbekistan from the situations in other republics in the former USSR, including Russia. In addition, Islam Karimov also recalled the major natural wealth of his republic, which is, in particular, the world's fourth biggest cotton producer and the eighth biggest extractor of gold.

It was apparently the reference to gold which prompted journalists to take a special interest in the gold bullion which, according to an AFP report, was delivered today under tight security to armored vaults in the cellars of the imposing CCF building on the Champs Elysees in Paris. In fact the delegation from Uzbekistan—and this was reported by the president himself at a meeting with entrepreneurs this morning at the headquarters of the national council of French entrepreneurs—has deposited national gold assets worth an unspecified amount with the CCF. In all, according to Islam Karimov, Uzbekistani assets worth \$400 million have recently been deposited in a number of Western banks. "The gold should serve as a guarantee to all those who want to invest money in our country; what could be better?" the Uzbek president said with regard to this.

When journalists asked questions on this topic at the CCF headquarters, the president of Uzbekistan declined to respond, clearly heeding a mute request by Charles de Croisset, president and director general of CCF. "That is our mutual secret," he smiled, adding: "It is the first consignment, but not the last."

Armenia**Karabakh Leader Calls For Talks With Azerbaijan**

NC2810142993 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1300 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Yerevan, 28 Oct (ARMENPRES)—Karen Baburyan, acting chairman of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] Supreme Council, issued a statement yesterday saying that it had been noted with sorrow that the escalation of the military operations in the region, which was instigated by the Azerbaijani Army, has caused many people to flee the area.

The NKR leadership declared with full responsibility that Karabakh's military operations are strictly retaliatory aimed at neutralizing the enemy's large formations. No other objectives are being pursued, says the statement.

The command of the NKR Self-Defense Army has ordered a unilateral cease-fire. The statement adds that if the NKR receives a satisfactory reply from Azerbaijan, it would be ready to immediately start talks with Azerbaijani leaders.

Azerbaijan Said Trying To Gain Time

PM2810140793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Sergey Bablunyan report: "Baku Diverts Attention and Gains Time"]

[Excerpt] Yerevan—[passage omitted] The Armenian mass media have published a statement by the Russian Foreign Ministry on the subject of the latest events in the NKR [Nagorno-Karabakh Republic]. Deputy Seyran Bagdasaryan, chairman of the Standing Parliamentary Commission on Nagorno-Karabakh, expressed his opinion on this score in the press.

"The Russian Foreign Ministry's latest statement insistently demands that the Karabakh Army halt its advance. This is correct from the Russia's geopolitical point of view. But the question being raised by Azerbaijan on the return of lands can only be considered in the light of the guarantees which Karabakh's inhabitants have won by forcing combat operations back some 20-30 km from their borders."

In S. Bagdasaryan's view, military operations were launched on the southern flank of the Karabakh front in a bid to divert NKR self-defense forces, since Azerbaijan's main strike groupings are targeted on the Mardakert front.

"Azerbaijan finds it advantageous to stall and gain time to train and regroup its armed forces," he went on. "This is why the Azerbaijan leadership refuses to sign the CSCE schedule of immediate measures, and likewise refrained from signing the documents in Moscow to clear transport and other lines of communication." [passage omitted]

Af Ugglas, Kocharyan Meeting Reported

NC2910102293 Yerevan SNARK in English 1713 GMT 27 Oct 93

[Text] Yerevan, October 27 (SNARK)—Today in Yerevan Margaret af Ugglas, the acting chairman of CSCE and the foreign minister of Sweden, has met with Robert Kocharyan, the head of the State Committee of Defence, and Arkady Ghukasyan, the head of Foreign Department of Karabakh. SNARK was informed by official sources that during the meeting they discussed the questions, concerning the peaceful settlement of Karabakh conflict under the aegis of CSCE, and expressed the opinions of the pressing measures, which must be taken at the current stage with the aim to continue the peaceful process. The parties were agreed that it is necessary to take the concrete measures, guaranteeing the cease-fire, which is the main condition for starting of the CSCE's Minsk conference.

"We hope that the arriving of CSCE's delegation will promote the increasing the efforts to settle Karabakh conflict" Margaret af Ugglas said at the meeting with reporters in Yerevan. She positively appreciated the results of the visit to Transcaucasia. She said that "especially interesting was the meeting with Robert Kocharyan, one of the Karabakh's leaders." Speaking about current situation at the conflict zone, the chairman of CSCE said "We comprehend Karabakh people suffered and the part of Karabakh's territory is occupied too."

Relative Calm Returns to Karabakh Fronts

NC2810191393 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1800 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Relative calm has returned following the bloody battles in the southern sector of the Karabakh battlefield over the last few days.

The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] Foreign Ministry reported that in keeping with the decision of the NKR leadership, the Karabakh armed forces command ordered a unilateral cease-fire as of 1800 on 27 October to ensure the unimpeded evacuation of civilians from the zone of military operations.

There were no military operations on the southern battlefield today, but the Karabakh defensive positions near Matagis in Mardakertskiy Rayon were shelled last night. There are no casualties.

The NKR Defense Ministry reports that Azerbaijani troops are being observed deploying in the direction of Agdam.

Supreme Council Reiterates Policy on Nagorno-Karabakh

NC2810221093 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 2050 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] A consultative meeting was held on 28 October at the Armenian Supreme Council at the initiative of the

Supreme Council's Standing Commission on Foreign Affairs to consider Armenia's policy toward the Nagorno-Karabakh problem.

The members of the Supreme Council Presidium; Davit Shahnazaryan, the Armenian president's special ambassador and people's deputy; people's deputies; representatives of the political parties, responsible officials from the executive branch; Levon Melik-Shahnazaryan, acting chairman of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] Supreme Council Standing Commission on Foreign Affairs; NKR Foreign Minister Arkadiy Gukasan; members of NKR Supreme Council Presidium; and others took part in the meeting.

Speaking on the aim of the consultative meeting, the chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet Standing Commission on Foreign Affairs, Davit Vardanyan, specifically noted that the latest political and military changes in the region makes it necessary to review our policy on the Karabakh conflict and get acquainted with the position of the NKR authorities.

The necessary clarifications were made. It was specifically noted that Armenia's official position remains unchanged, which is: To make use of the CSCE and of the processes toward a political settlement within the framework of the CSCE, to achieve a guaranteed and stable peace in the region, and only then to discuss Nagorno-Karabakh's status and other issues during direct talks between NKR and Azerbaijan.

The consultative meeting [words indistinct] continue to discuss the issue of different links of the chain. First Deputy Chairman of the Armenian Supreme Council Ara Sahakyan also took part in the meeting.

'Emergency Session' Continues

MK2810142593 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 71, 28 Oct 93 (signed to press 27 Oct 93) p 5

[Ivan Prikazchikov report from Yerevan under the "Armenia" rubric: "Economic Situation Is Catastrophic. Emergency Supreme Council Session Under Way in Yerevan"]

[Excerpts] For two weeks already an emergency session of the Armenian parliament has been discussing two issues that are extremely important for the republic: Prime Minister Grant Bagratyan's report on the economic situation, and the possibility of bringing troops into Georgia in response to Eduard Shevardnadze's plea. [passage omitted]

What some experts see as Armenia's "subtle" refusal to exchange "Soviet" rubles for "Russian" ones within a period of time prescribed by the Russian Central Bank has sent the republic's agonizing financial system into a coma. The retention of old rubles in circulation has to some extent confirmed rumors that have long flown in Armenia about President Levon Ter-Petrosyan's and his entourage's close connection with the trade mafia, which

has increased its capital by "recycling" over and over again the 1961-1992 cash they have been hoarding. [passage omitted]

As a result of the financial experiments, the Armenians currently receive paltry wages in banknotes the purchasing power of which is plummeting rapidly. All hopes for rescue are now pinned on Russia: They wonder whether the Kremlin will increase its aid, which, according to official information, accounts for "only" 57 percent of the independent Republic of Armenia's budget. It is unclear, however, whether Moscow has agreed to take money out of the Russian taxpayer's pocket to pay for the dealings of Armenian operators, who have recently exchanged the invalid old banknotes for new ones.

The second matter, concerning the possibility of bringing the Armenian Armed Forces into Georgia, is being discussed by the parliamentarians behind closed doors. Judging from confidential reports, passions run high there.

The Georgians' traditionally mixed feelings toward the Armenians have palpably worsened during the Karabakh conflict. Yerevan cannot forgive Georgia, which is being torn apart by its own autonomous republics, for its reluctance to help Nagorno-Karabakh secede from Azerbaijan. The Armenians also have territorial claims on Georgia, which have been openly proclaimed by some politicians. These circumstances make Armenia's military assistance to the current Georgian authorities a more than sensitive action. Most deputies fear that the arrival of an Armenian military contingent may boost separatism in south Georgian regions with a predominantly Armenian population and spark anti-Armenian sentiments among some Georgians.

At least two deputies from among supporters of the current authorities, speaking off-record in the lobby, have separately expressed an opinion that the current situation in Georgia is perfectly appropriate for annexing Georgia's southern regions to Armenia. Particularly, if they pause until Eduard Shevardnadze is removed from power. "They are crazy!" was how Ruben Satyan, editor-in-chief of the Armenian VREMYA newspaper, commented on these words.

Nonetheless, Aram Safaryan, chief of the Foreign Ministry's information administration, when reporting on his contacts with Akakiy Asatiani, leader of the Georgian parliamentary opposition, and recalling that Armenia once granted asylum to former President Zviad Gamsakhurdia, said beaming with satisfaction: "An apartment for Shevardnadze is being prepared in Yerevan." He added, twisting his moustache: "Armenia is a kind country."

Parliament Wants More Say in Forming Government

MK2810115593 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 93 p 3

[Armen Khanbabayan report: "Parliament: Mutiny on the Bounty. Ruling Party Declined To Support 'Their' Premier"]

[Text] Armenia's parliament has completed a week-long debate about the government's progress report on the implementation of the state budget and the program of socioeconomic development for the current year. Both the discussion and its results proved sensational, in a sense. It had not been hard to predict that opposition deputies would roast the cabinet for its inability to deal with growing prices and halt the continued fall in the standard of living. That is what really happened: Prime Minister Grant Bagratyan's reasons for the present crisis, his assurances that the government managed to halt the industrial production slump in August-September and to achieve a certain excess of incomes over the price growth, were not taken into consideration. More so because the powerful influx of obsolete rubles from the other Commonwealth states had not only devalued wages, but also canceled all the efforts by the executive branch and extremely destabilized the republic's economic situation. The surprising thing was that the most sharp and irreconcilable critics of the government included deputies primarily of the Armenian Pan-National Movement [APM] one of whose prominent functionaries is the present premier. Ter-Usik Lazaryan, leader of the APM faction, proposed that the cabinet's report be noted, and its performance categorized as unsatisfactory, especially with regard to braking the economic reforms. This proposal was of course greeted with satisfaction by the opposition and rather coolly by the premier, who thought that parliament's stance was unjust and as ignoring reality and the republic's beleaguered position today.

It would have been logical to expect opposition parliamentarians to vote on the question of no confidence in the government. In this case the APM faction would have had to vote together with the rest of the field and the cabinet would have inevitably fallen. The Dashnaks, Communists, and representatives of the National Democratic Union, however, resorted to a much stronger move, introducing a proposal that a new draft law be submitted to parliament on the redistribution of functions between the Supreme Soviet and the president in the formation of a government. This implies that relations between the power branches in Armenia may, predictably, considerably sharpen in the future. Of course, it would hardly come to a repetition of events in Moscow, but the president may step up the process of passing a new constitution and then call early elections. Such an outcome would be extremely disadvantageous for the current parliament, whose rating is appreciably

lower than the president's. Therefore it seems that discussions of the new draft law in the Supreme Soviet will drag out, and the prospects for passing it appear doubtful.

Azerbaijan

Iran's Hashemi-Rafsanjani Concludes Visit

Discusses Border Issue

LD2810132293 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] With the signing of 14 documents, which were ratified today in Baku by the presidents of the Islamic republic of Iran and the republic of Azerbaijan, multifaceted cooperation between the two countries are set to increase and expand. After signing these documents today, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the Azerbaijan president attended a news conference in which our president described the outcome of his visit to Azerbaijan. Our correspondent in Baku has sent us this report:

[Correspondent] The presidents of the two countries stated that the signing of 14 cooperation documents will pave the way for the expansion of bilateral ties in all fields, and will benefit both nations. These documents lay the framework for cooperation in the areas of education, culture, commerce, industry, economics, banking, and transport.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the friendly and fraternal relations between the two countries and the positive outcome of his talks. He added: I am very pleased that a new chapter in our bilateral cooperation has unfolded, and I am very optimistic about the future.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's president added: The people of Iran and the eminent leader of the Islamic revolution [Khamene'i], who in many ways has a great deal of affection for the people of Azerbaijan, welcome my visit and are pleased with its outcome. As I arrive in Azerbaijan I felt as though I was setting foot in my own home.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani then said: Our countries have a common viewpoint regarding regional issues and their future prospects. At the same time our nations seek firmer bilateral ties.

Moreover, the president referred to Iran's recent efforts to end the conflict in the Zangelan area, and said: We are concerned about the recent Armenian attacks on the Zangelan area, and we have asked the Armenian president to halt the attacks. On the basis of our latest information, the two sides have accepted and implemented a ceasefire. The Islamic Republic of Iran will never stand for tension along its borders.

Referring to the issue of assistance to Azerbaijani refugees, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated: We treat Azerbaijan refugees like our own war refugees, and if they wish to live within the Iranian territory, they can do so. He stressed: We help the refugees, but we do not encourage them to leave their homes. This is because we know that people, in particular youth, should not flee war zones. Such a process will not lead to a desirable outcome.

In this interview, Mr. Heydar Aliyev, in turn, stressed the important role of these talks and the signed documents in bringing the two nations closer. He said: The visit by His Excellency Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Azerbaijan is an historical event and has unfolded a new chapter in the history of relations between the two countries.

The president of Azerbaijan referred to the fresh attacks waged by Armenian forces against Zangelan, and said: The president of Islamic Iran has made great efforts to halt these attacks and establish a ceasefire, and the government and the nation of Azerbaijan are profoundly grateful to him. We hope these efforts may succeed in saving Azerbaijan from its present crisis.

He added: We have also asked the UN Security Council to act quickly and put an end to the conflict in the Karabakh region.

Awarded Science Academy Honor

LD2810144493 Tehran IRNA in English 1217 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Baku, Oct 28, IRNA—On the last day of his visit to the Azerbaijan Republic, President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani was accorded the honorary membership of the Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences.

In his speech, delivered in Farsi and translated into Azeri, President Rafsanjani said that he felt quite at home in Azerbaijan republic.

"The fact that one feels at home here shows that the Marxists' attempts to change the character of this nation over the past 70 years were in vain," he told the audience at the Academy who gave him a standing ovation and interrupted his speech several times with their applause.

Rafsanjani went on to say that the Marxists' failure could give a lesson to the Armenians who were occupying Azerbaijan territories. "They too should learn that their attempts to threaten Azeri nation will end in failure," he said.

Rafsanjani criticized the former government in Azerbaijan for trying to mar the friendship between the two nations.

"But the former government realized it had made a mistake when it found out the depth of friendship between the two sides of Aras River and it saw how the people of Azerbaijan were anxious to come to help the victims of the earthquake in northern Iran."

Ebulfez Elchibey, Azerbaijan's former president, was not in favor of expanding relations with Iran. Geydar Aliyev, Azerbaijan's current head of state, is for strong relations with Azerbaijan's neighbor in the south.

President Rafsanjani and Aliyev are expected to sign a memorandum of understanding in Baku this afternoon.

Brokers New Cease-Fire

NC2810140093 Paris AFP in English 1237 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Excerpt] Tehran, Oct 28 (AFP)—Armenian separatist forces have agreed to a ceasefire in Azerbaijan after mediation efforts by Iran, President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Thursday quoted by state radio.

"We have asked the Armenian president to take steps to end the conflict," and a ceasefire had been agreed, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in Baku at the end of a visit to Azerbaijan.

"We are worried about the situation and will not tolerate chaos at our borders," the radio quoted him as saying.

The latest attacks on Azerbaijan by Armenian separatists have unleashed a wave of hundreds of thousands of refugees flooding towards Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia.

The radio said that the ceasefire deal had been struck late Wednesday after intense negotiations by telephone between Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, his Turkish counterpart Hikmet Cetin and top Armenian officials.

The official IRNA news agency said Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan had pledged that the Armenian separatists will observe the ceasefire from 7 p.m. (1500 GMT) Thursday.

Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev said meanwhile that he had asked the U.N. Security Council to take steps to end the five-year conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Nearly 15,000 people have died since the Christian Armenian majority in the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh announced it was splitting from Muslim Azerbaijan in 1988. [passage omitted]

Signs 14 Documents

LD2810165593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1444 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevinj Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku October 28 TASS—The third day of the visit by Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Azerbaijan resulted in signing 14 official documents to regulate relationship between the two

states. The two presidents signed on Thursday a memorandum on the principles of relations of friendship and cooperation between the Azeri Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Also signed were accords on trade cooperation, transit, mutual settlements between the Azeri and Iranian national banks, as well as on cooperation in science, education and economics for Azerbaijan's Nakhichevan province. Another document signed by the two leaders was a protocol on economic cooperation, which is expected to have good prospects.

The Azeri and Iranian presidents also reached agreement on political consultations on a regular basis and visa-free travelling for citizens of the two countries. A protocol and a memorandum were signed to this effect, as well as documents setting priorities in transportation, scientific, cultural and education cooperation.

Holds Joint News Conference With Aliyev

NC2810160293 Baku TURAN in English 1230 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Baku October 28 (TURAN)—A joint press-conference of Geydar Aliyev and Hashemi-Rafsanjani took place in Baku today.

Drawing conclusions to the results of the three-day long visit to Azerbaijan the both leaders highly qualified the results of the visit and said that it will become a starting point of the new level of relations between the two states.

In particular, G. Aliyev said that due to the personal interference of the president of Iran, the Armenian offensive upon Zangelanskiy was stopped yesterday at the second half of the day. [According] to G. Aliyev's words, Rafsanjani twice got in touch with the Armenian leaders from Baku before the fire was stopped.

Answering the question on laying an oil pipe-line from Azerbaijan to the Mediterranean, the Iranian president said that his country was ready to render its territory for the supplies of the Azeri oil to Europe.

In his turn, G. Aliyev said, that it is prematurely to talk about the final route of the oil pipe-line and the talks on this matter continue now. Answering the question of the possibility of appeal to the other countries for the military assistance, G. Aliyev said, that we have to defend our territory and to liberate the seized territories for ourselves. Touching upon the assistance of other countries, then this question is not worked out well enough. Together with this he said that our joining the CIS was done in order to get favours in the war with Armenia.

Touching upon the situation at the northern borders of Iran in connection with tens of thousands of Azeri refugees, A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, that Iran can't be indifferent to the situation at its northern borders and will take all the necessary measures to normalize the

situation there. Touching upon the possibility of rendering military assistance to Azerbaijan president of Iran said, that we should not like to take such a measures and we hope that all the problems will be solved politically.

He also said, that the agreement with Baku on rendering all the necessary assistance to the refugees from Zangelanskiy and their transportation to Azerbaijan is reached.

Commenting upon the reports, that the latest Armenian offensive was the result of Baku's refusal to the return of the Russian troops to Azerbaijan, G. Aliyev said, that such kind of reports are ungrounded, so as we have not received such a proposal from Russia.

G. Aliyev sceptically qualified the role of the international organizations in peaceful regulation of the Armenian-Azeri conflict. Together with this he said, that he sent a message to the UNO Secretary General Butrus-Ghali, asking him to discuss the situation in the region at the next sitting of the Security Council.

Report on News Conference

NC2810183393 Baku Azerbaijan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Report by S. Ocakli on news conference held by President Geydar Aliyev and Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in Baku on 28 October]

[Text] Talks on various subjects were held between the representatives of Iran and Azerbaijan during the official visit of Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to our country at the invitation of Azerbaijan President Geydar Aliyev.

The Iranian and Azerbaijani foreign ministers and other ministers held fruitful talks. Agreements, protocols, memorandums, and joint statements were drafted on various aspects of bilateral relations.

In the opinion of experts groups taking part in the talks, the drafted documents could serve as a foundation for raising the relations between the two states to a new level.

In keeping with agreements reached during the talks, documents on various fields between Iran and Azerbaijan were signed today.

A protocol of intent was signed between the Azerbaijani Ministry of Economy and the Iranian Industry Ministry on economic and trade cooperation. An agreement on transportation, a protocol on science and culture, an agreement on bank transactions, a memorandum on easing travel between the two countries, and a memorandum on principles of friendship and cooperation were also signed. The last-mentioned memorandum was signed by Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev.

After the signing ceremony, the Iranian and Azerbaijani presidents held a news conference. Noting the great importance of the 14 agreements, protocols and memorandums signed after the talks, both leaders indicated that although certain accords were already in existence in the economic, scientific, cultural and other fields, the documents signed today will make it possible to further develop cooperation between the two countries.

In reply to reporters questions, both leaders stated that they attribute enormous importance to the result of the talks, and noted that this visit will open up a new phase in bilateral relations with fraternal Iran.

Presidents 'Pleased' With Summit

LD2810170293 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1617
GMT 28 Oct 93

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Victor Shulman]

[Text] Baku October 28 *ITAR-TASS*—The presidents of Iran and Azerbaijan 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Geydar Aliyev said today they were pleased with the constructive results of the their official summit talks which ended here today.

They were speaking at a press conference after signing a package of documents which will regulate relations between the two states.

Most questions asked at the press conference concerned the conflict around Nagorno-Karabakh, which has escalated again lately due to an offensive launched by the Armenian armed forces in the republic's south-western part close to the Iranian border.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said he had appealed to the Armenian president, Levon Ter-Petrosyan on Wednesday and demanded that "he keep his earlier promise that the Armenian forces will launch no new offensive operations".

According to the Iranian president, he stressed in particular that "a new wave of Azeri refugees is creating new problems for Iran". He also said that "after this appeal, relative quiet prevailed in the conflict zone from Wednesday afternoon". Along with this, the Iranian president declared resolutely that his country would not put up with such a situation on its borders.

Asked about the possibility of military assistance to Azerbaijan, Rafsanjani expressed the hope that "there will be no practical need for specific actions on the part of Iran".

For his part, Geydar Aliyev said "the Azeri people must protect themselves and rely on their own forces".

He rejected allegations that the latest developments in south-western Azerbaijan came after the republic refused to bring back Russian troops to its territory. "No such proposal was made by Russia," Aliyev stated resolutely.

Reiterates Support for Baku

LD2810191293 Moscow *INTERFAX in English* 1715
GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] President Gaydar Aliyev of Azerbaijan has appealed to the UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali for the UN Security Council to consider at its next meeting Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan, for example, the seizure of the republic's Zangelan region. He sent a relevant message to New York.

President Gaydar Aliyev called on 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, his Iranian counterpart, to use his influence in persuading the Armenian authorities to stop hostilities in the southeast of Azerbaijan.

In his talks Wednesday with the Iranian president, Aliyev said that even though there was a lull on the front, the hostilities had not ceased. He said that with the fall of Goradiz, the Kubatli, Fizuli, Jebrael, and Zangelan districts had been cut off from the rest of Azerbaijan. Aliyev also said that the Zangelan district was continuously being shelled and there were civilian casualties.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani believes that the latest Armenian offensive threatened the security of the entire region. He made it clear that the world community would not tolerate the use of force in foreign policy, in particular, forceful changes of borders or territorial gains. The Iranian leader said the Armenian offensive should be denounced by the world community.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani assured Aliyev that Iran would not abandon Azerbaijan and would press for peace in the region.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: In a statement made public Wednesday the Armenian Foreign Ministry placed the blame for the deterioration of the conflict in recent days on Azerbaijan. It said that the Azerbaijani offensive had broken the fragile truce and made the negotiations between the two sides even more difficult. The Armenian Foreign Ministry could not say whether the offensive had been mounted by forces that, as some Baku officials said, were not controlled by the central authorities, or had been the latest Azerbaijani attempt to resolve the conflict by military means. The ministry also called attention to the fact that the Azerbaijani offensive was started in the run up to visits to Baku by Swedish Foreign Minister Margaret af Ugglas, CSCE chairperson, and the Iranian president.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry believes that "the Azerbaijani Government should be held responsible for the ill-advised steps and their consequences and that it is the duty of every party interested in establishing peace in the region to denounce Azerbaijan."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said at a briefing in Baku Thursday that in recent telephone talks with Levon Ter-Petrosian he reminded the Armenian president of his promise that Armenian forces would not take an inch of Azerbaijani soil. The Iranian leader said that he had heard Thursday

that the hostilities had ceased. He expressed the hope that the situation in the region would improve and emphasized that Tehran would not "tolerate dangerous developments in the situation on its borders." The Iranian leader said that he would do his best to avoid being forced to send military aid to Azerbaijan.

Joint Communiqué Issued

LD2810213993 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] At the end of the three-day visit to the Republic of Azerbaijan by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, a joint communiqué was issued by the two countries. In the communiqué the resolve of the presidents of the two countries for the expansion of ties, cordial relations, and all-embracing cooperation between the two governments, as well as the strengthening, consolidating, and deepening of that cooperation has been stressed.

Some of the instances in the communiqué, over which the two sides have expressed their readiness to cooperate, include the expansion and deepening of relations between the two countries in fields of politics, economy, science, culture, transport, oil explorations, production and refining, banking, industrial production, and training of experts.

The communiqué also says that the two sides condemn the aggression against the Azeri soil, and thus express their deep concern over the occupation of Azeri lands and the fleeing of a great number of the people of that republic. The two countries describe the aggression of the Armenian forces as a threat to peace and security in the region, and stress the need to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political unity, and maintaining of the two countries' borders. The unconditional withdrawal of the occupying forces from the Azeri soil, the halting of military operations, and the return of refugees to their homes are some of the topics that have been stressed in the joint communiqué.

According to the same communiqué, the talks by the presidents of both countries have been conducted in a totally friendly atmosphere, and mutual understanding, and confidence.

Departs for Iran

NC2810172793 Baku Azerbaijan Radio Televiziya Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Report by V. Mirsadik]

[Text] [Announcer] Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and his delegation left for their country from Baku's Bina airport today after an official visit to Azerbaijan.

[Correspondent Mirsadik] Esteemed Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani had a frank conversation with the officials who came to see him off. The commander of the

guard of honor saluted the two presidents. The two leaders then mounted the podium to hear the anthems of Iran and Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan President Geydar Aliyev escorted esteemed Hashemi-Rafsanjani to the airplane.

Azerbaijani Prime Minister Suret Guseynov, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Afiaddin Dzheilov, and other officials were among those seeing the Iranian President off.

Velayati Contacts Turkey, Russia on Caucasus Truce

LD2810115593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Thanks to the mediation of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI], a cease-fire has been established between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Simultaneous with the visit of Iran's President Hashemi-Rafsanjani to the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Azerbaijani officials' request to establish a cease-fire and to halt attacks by the Armenian army on the Zangelan region, our country's Foreign Minister Velayati repeatedly contacted Armenian authorities by telephone. Thanks to the IRI's intense efforts, a cease-fire was established last night between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

During an interview with our correspondent in Baku, Mr. Velayati announced: The IRI's Foreign Ministry is continuing its diplomatic contacts with the warring sides on the enforcement of the cease-fire and the withdrawal of armed forces, and toward providing security for the people of the area and making it possible for the refugees to return home.

Meanwhile, Mr. Velayati held repeated telephone calls with the foreign minister of Turkey and Shahnazarian, the second personality of the Armenian Government [name and title as heard]; and intensive contact between Deputy Foreign Minister Va'ez and the Russian deputy foreign minister continued from yesterday morning until midnight last night.

The same report indicates that President Geydar Aliyev of Azerbaijan sincerely thanked Hashemi-Rafsanjani for the IRI's efforts to establish a ceasefire. He asked that the IRI's endeavor should continue toward the creation of a just and honorable peace, and the withdrawal of Armenian forces from Azerbaijani territory.

Nagorno-Karabakh Leader on Escalation of Tension

LD2810180993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1641 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—"Considering the danger of the escalation of hostilities, the command of the Nagorno-Karabakh Defence Army has been ordered to ensure a ceasefire on a unilateral basis," acting Nagorno-Karabakh Parliament Chairman Karen Baburyan said in a statement on Thursday.

"In the event of inadequate measures on the part of Azerbaijan, the Nagorno-Karabakh leadership will be ready for immediate talks with the Azerbaijani authorities in order to agree the mechanisms for non-resumption of hostilities and withdrawal of troops," the statement said.

The Nagorno-Karabakh leadership has held Azerbaijani troops in southern Karabakh responsible for the recent escalation of tension in the region. "Sharing the concern of the world community and neighbouring states, the leadership of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic responsibly states that combat activities of Karabakh forces are of a retaliatory nature and aim at neutralising a large enemy group which has broken the truce. No other goals connected particularly with the capture or retention of the territory are being pursued," the statement said.

Withdrawal of Baku's Forces, Evacuation Detailed

NC2910123493 Baku TURAN in English 1014 GMT 29 Oct 93

[Text] Baku, October 29 (TURAN)—On October 28 at 5.30 p.m. the last units of the Azeri army, covering the retreat of the peaceful Azeri population to the territory of Iran, left Zangelan region, occupied by the Armenian forces and crossed the bordering river of Araz.

So, the evacuation of the 60-thousand population in the region is finished, and the Armenian Armed Forces took the seventh region of Azerbaijan under their control. (Earlier the Armenian Army have occupied Lachin, Kelbadzhar, Agdam, Fizuli, Dzhebrail, Kubatly regions of the republic. Besides, the whole territory of Nagorno-Karabakh is under the control of the Armenian forces.)

Halig Askerov, TURAN's reporter, who was the last to leave Zangelan said that the Azeris managed to transport the civil and military equipment over the Araz river on to the Iranian territory. Earlier, they managed to dam the Araz river at the Nakhichevan power-station for 36 hours and thus lower the water level in the river.

The TURAN correspondent reported that refugees and units of the Azeri Army were being transported back to Azerbaijan in the vicinity of Beylagan sector of the Azeri-Iranian border which is under the control of the Azeri forces.

Askerov denied the reports of mass media, that on October 27 after the telephone conversation between President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani of Iran and President Levon Ter Petrosyan of Armenia the Armenian Army stopped military operations in the south-west of Azerbaijan. A desperate duel of the Armenian

and Azeri artillery went on in the vicinity of Goradiz (the Fizuli sector of the Azeri-Iranian border) well into the night yesterday, Askerov said.

At the same time, according to the information the TURAN agency has got, the number of refugees from the south-west regions of Azerbaijan who found shelter in the front-line Imishli region reached 150 thousand people.

Statement at UN Accuses Armenia of Aggression

NC2810154493 Baku TURAN in English 1059 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Azerbaijan Calls Upon UNO To Stop Armenian Aggression"—TURAN headline]

[Text] Baku October 28 (TURAN)—Today Foreign Ministry of Azerbaijan distributed a statement which runs [states that] Armenian armed forces breaking the agreement on cease-fire October 23 launched massive advance on south-western regions of Azerbaijan republic.

The statement stresses that Armenian army delivered the main blow from western, north-western and eastern directions to neighbouring with Iran Zangelanskiy region of Azerbaijan. The main goal of the advance is total occupation of the whole south-west of the republic. At present Zangelanskiy with population of 60,000 people is cut off from the rest part of Azerbaijan. Armenian forces have taken 70 km of Azerbaijan-Iranian border under the control.

As statement runs, Azerbaijani government can not provide assistance to the population of occupied region.

Foreign Ministry accused Armenia of breaking peaceful settlement of the conflict. The statement runs, Armenia captures new Azeri territories at a moment when official meeting on peaceful settlement of the conflict takes place. This time it coincided with arrival of the CSCE to the region.

In this connection Foreign Ministry of Azerbaijan considered advance of Armenian armed forces to be horrible act of aggression aimed at breaking of negotiating process and fraught with internationalization of the conflict.

Azerbaijan calls upon world community to refuse of double standards policy, to condemn aggression of Armenian republic against Azerbaijan republic, to take extreme measures on stopping aggression in line with Chapter 7 of UN Charter,—runs statement of Foreign Ministry of Azerbaijan.

Turkey To Build Camp for Azeri Refugees

NC2810165393 Baku TURAN in English 1230 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Baku October 28 (TURAN)—Turkey delivered 1000 tents for the Azeri refugees. The second batch of tents is to be delivered next week.

The Turkish party plans to build two tent camps for the 2000 refugee families in Agdzhabedinskiy and Bardinskiy regions. The tents will be equipped by mattresses and heating system.

Chief of the department on humanitarian assistance attached to the cabinet Gabi Raddzhabov said, that 14 Turkish employees will be constantly stay in these camps for rendering different aid, including food assistance to the refugees.

To coordinate the construction works general coordinator of the Red Half-moon [Crescent] of Turkey Lukman Ligosh arrived to Azerbaijan.

Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Kiev Trade Talks

NC2810180593 Baku Azerbaijan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] A delegation headed by Azerbaijan First Deputy Prime Minister Vakhid Akhmedov left for Kiev today. The improvement of economic and trade relations between the two countries will be discussed during the visit.

Georgia**Russian, State Troops Guard Poti-Kutaisi Railway**

LD2810180693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1649 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi, 28 October—At 1900 today, subunits of the Russian group of forces in the Transcaucasus, jointly with the forces of the Georgian ministries of security and the interior, placed under guard the main railway line in the western part of the republic.

This measure is being taken in accordance with an order issued today by Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, and at the request of Georgian leaders.

Joint posts to protect bridges and other important points are being placed on the stretches of road between the Black Sea port of Poti and Kutaisi which are particularly exposed to acts of diversion. Armored detachments consisting of several freight wagons and carriages carrying tanks or personnel carriers will patrol the main line.

It is planned that of Azerbaijani and Armenian peace-making forces will take part in these activities. Thus far, however, there have been no reports confirming their participation.

Railroad Repaired; Shipments Resume

PM2810152793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Oct 93

[By Georgiy Ratishvili and Georgiy Bazadze; from the "Novosti" program]

[Text] The taking of the town of Senaki in western Georgia by government forces has made it possible to repair the stretches of track on the Poti-Samtredia railroad that were destroyed by supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia. Working all through the night, the railroad workers completely repaired all the track, enabling vital shipments of goods to reach Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan once more. Two trainloads of wheat were dispatched to Armenia this very morning. Subunits of government troops are continuing their offensive against towns held by supporters of the former president. Fighting is currently under way on the outskirts of Khobi.

Significance of Recapture Viewed

PM2810142993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Valeriy Russu report: "Gamsakhurdia Urges Victors To...Surrender"]

[Excerpts] Tbilisi—[passage omitted] The capture of the city of Senaki is of tremendous military-economic significance for the republic. The Poti-Samtredia-Tbilisi railroad line has fallen totally under official Tbilisi control. Admittedly, it will not be possible to send trains down it straightaway over the next few days since the Zviadists have destroyed a stretch of several dozen kilometers and put the bridge over the Tskhenis-Tskali River out of action. High-voltage contact system cables have been stolen on many stretches of railroad. Therefore trains from Tbilisi to the west of the republic are only going as far as Batumi, Samtredia, Kutaisi, and Ozurgeti today.

Police and internal affairs detachments are still arriving in the liberated areas, combating the looting and robbery that have become commonplace in these areas. The fact that the military are also involved in this action also presupposes combat against the people coming to Western Georgia to collect the weapons that the ex-president's supporters are abandoning at every turn as they retreat. Loti Kobaliya's men left behind them a whole arsenal in the village of Dakhnari—24 antitank shells, an armored reconnaissance vehicle, and other arms and hardware—and it was only prompt actions on the part of the internal troops that prevented the weapons collectors from taking possession of all these weapons. [passage omitted]

The Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus staff has also finished formulating a plan to disperse the peacekeeping forces. According to this document Armenian troops will guard the Poti-Kutaisi stretch of the route and Russians the Kutaisi-Gori section. The Azerbaijani contingent has been assigned the section of the route from Gori to their own border, however, according to certain information, official Baku is refusing to take part in the operation on the grounds that disorganization reigns in its national army. If that happens, armed formations from the Republic of Georgia will undertake to guard that stretch. Incidentally, of the three sections the Azerbaijani stretch is the quietest...

State Forces Strengthen Position in Senaki

LD2810150393 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1400 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] A 400-man-strong police unit headed by the commandant of the town, Police Colonel Nodar Tskrialashvili entered the town of Senaki. The Georgian minister of internal affairs, Lieutenant General Shota Kviriaia arrived in Senaki. Pickets have been set in the town and flying squads have been established. Fighting has begun against the remaining bandit units supporting the ex-president and marauders.

The police has found three railway carriages loaded with Grad shells at the railway station. These shells were sent to Sukhumi from Tbilisi to help Sukhumi defenders but Loti Kobalia's armed units seized the carriages when these were passing the Samegrelo region. They have already used one carriage-load of shells to destroy Samtredia. The government troops, which occupied Senaki, did not give them an opportunity to use the remaining shells. The police found thirteen boxes with Nurs and Grad shells in the tea plantations near the village of Gegeti.

Operative actions resulted in finding 40 tonnes of sugar stolen by Kobalia's gangs. The tea-processing factory as well as other enterprises of the town is completely ravaged. Regrettably, facts of marauding have been reported in the town and the rayon. The police is carrying out measures to stop this lawlessness.

Zviadists Counterattack, Retake Khobi

LD2810153493 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Georgian Government troops are continuing their offensive against the positions of the Zviadists. They are already 12 kilometers from Zugdidi.

At the same time, according to our correspondent, Zviad Gamsakhurdia's supporters have launched a counterattack, and, at about 1500 in the afternoon, they recaptured the town of Khobi.

Government Troops Recapture Khobi

LD2810195293 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1900 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Despite many appeals and warnings, Gamsakhurdia supporters shelled Khobi barbarously today. The gangs were fighting together with Chechens and other invaders from the north Caucasus.

The units of the state forces had to retreat temporarily but, as a result of a counterattack, they recaptured the town of Khobi. Khobi is now controlled by the state troops. They retain the same positions.

Government Troops Retake Khobi 28 Oct

LD2910092993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 29 Oct 93

[Text] Georgian government troops, at approximately 2100 yesterday evening once again occupied the town of Khobi in western Georgia. Earlier yesterday Khobi was taken by supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia. As INTERFAX was told at the Georgian Defense Ministry press center, due to an offensive by government forces the Zviadists sustained heavy losses and retreated. Government troops destroyed and captured ten tanks, APCs, and Grad rocket sites. The Georgian military department claims that panic is reigning among the ex-president's formations following the onslaught.

Abasha Liberated; Air Force Commander Tortured, Shot

LD2910101293 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 29 Oct 93

[Text] According to information obtained from Abasha, government troops—after having liberated the town—found bodies of three officers. According to local inhabitants, the three were taken prisoner by Loti Kobalia's bandit unit who, before fleeing Abasha, brutally tortured and then shot dead the Georgian officers. One of the victims was Major General Zurab Nairashvili, commander of the Georgian Air Force. The other two bodies have not yet been identified. Major General Nairashvili was killed after he had gone to negotiate the exchange of prisoners with the other side.

Shevardnadze Meets Israeli Ambassador on Aid Shipments

LD2810205593 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the Georgian Supreme Council and head of state, today received Baruch Birnbaum, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Israel to the Republic of Georgia.

Mr. Birnbaum said that the day before, a plane had arrived from Israel delivering humanitarian aid and

warm clothes for the refugees from Abkhazia. The aid came from Israel's public organizations and the Georgian community there.

It was noted that the Israeli Government had decided to deliver another package of aid in November, and at the end of this month a delegation of economic experts will arrive in Tbilisi. They will cooperate with the Georgian specialists.

The head of state thanked Mr. Birnbaum, the Government of Israel, and the Jewish people for their support and expressed hope that the traditions of the ancient friendship will guarantee a basis for the future relations between the two countries.

Shevardnadze Explains Decision To Join CIS

PM2810160693 Lisbon *EXPRESSO* in Portuguese
23 Oct 93 p B 7

[Interview with President Shevardnadze by Luisa Meireles in Tbilisi; date not given]

[Text] [Meireles] Following the loss of Abkhazia, the semi-independence of Adzharia and South Ossetia (the first two being autonomous republics integrated into Georgia, and the third an autonomous region), and former President Zviad Gamsakhurdia's military advances, is it still possible to speak of a Georgian state?

[Shevardnadze] I do not doubt that Georgia's integrity will be restored in the near future and that we will be a united country again. The situation could be compared with that of somebody who suddenly falls gravely ill, but I am certain that this will be surmounted.

[Meireles] Is one of the remedies joining the CIS?

[Shevardnadze] It is one of the steps in that direction.

[Meireles] Many Georgians, including the main politicians and political parties, are opposed to the idea, fearing that it means in effect rebuilding the former Russian empire and the former Soviet Union. Despite that, you took that decision. Why?

[Shevardnadze] I would say that those people's attitude is rather primitive and that they are not responsible. If they had a sense of responsibility to their country and their people, they would not behave like that. Many of them are mere amateurs—not real politicians. Most of the population support my decision. When I addressed the assembly of citizens of Tbilisi (a speech delivered Monday), they were all unanimous in supporting my decision, and the same thing happened in other cities; specifically, in Kutaisi, which is Georgia's second industrial center. Some 80 percent of Georgia's population support that measure.

[Meireles] And what kind of assistance do you expect from Russia in promoting integration?

[Shevardnadze] In the first place, the restoration of economic ties, the renewal of culture and science, and some contribution with respect to the military developments. In short, we hope to gain what we really deserve.

[Meireles] What kind of "military contribution" do you mean? The Russians taking part actively in the fight against Gamsakhurdia?

[Shevardnadze] We hope for Russia's assistance, as well as that of Armenia and Azerbaijan, in protecting the railroads (Gamsakhurdia's forces have taken the city of Samtredia, on the vital railroad crossing the country, which is the only supply route for Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan from the Black Sea). But as regards the fight against Gamsakhurdia, we will conduct that ourselves.

[Meireles] Are Armenia and Azerbaijan able to intervene?

[Shevardnadze] Armenia is as interested in the railroad's security as we are. It has no other internal supply route.

[Meireles] Is there any possibility of resolving peacefully the conflict with Gamsakhurdia?

[Shevardnadze] I acknowledge that it is a slight, not to say nonexistent, possibility.

[Meireles] And militarily?

[Shevardnadze] (laughing) That is a military secret. I believe that it is the people of Georgia themselves who will fight him.

[Meireles] There are those who believe that the "Russian military contribution" is a "poisoned gift" for Georgia...

[Shevardnadze] As time passes, more people will realize that joining the CIS is the only possible solution. People do not really know what the CIS is, and that it is not so dangerous. Many former Soviet republics, such as Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan and the central Asian republics, Moldova, Armenia, and Azerbaijan have joined the CIS. Many people think this is tantamount to restoring the Soviet empire, but that is impossible; the former Soviet Union cannot be rebuilt.

[Meireles] But could it mean the restoration of Russia's influence over the same geographical area? In Georgia itself, it is said that Russia is responsible for the separatism of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, for instance.

[Shevardnadze] That is absolutely true, and it is no secret to anybody that the events in Abkhazia were orchestrated by Russia, by its darkest and most reactionary forces, defeated in the Russian parliament during the recent events in Moscow. Now it is different, and so it should be. Russia has no course except democracy, and if it stays loyal to democratic principles, it represents no threat, but if it opts for a reactionary path and tries to restore the totalitarian system, the CIS will break up, and with it Russia, too.

[Meireles] How do you see Georgia's possible evolution, in view of the catastrophic economic situation, the absolute lack of production, and the internal war?

[Shevardnadze] In the near future, the conflict must be finally ended and the economy restored. It was for this reason that I took the decision to join the CIS.

[Meireles] Can the Western countries help? The international community does not seem prepared to intervene...

[Shevardnadze] The Western countries are helping us to some extent, and I hope that they will continue to do so, in terms of humanitarian, economic, and financial aid. The international community cannot intervene directly, but the United Nations and its Security Council, the EEC, and NATO have made political statements supporting Georgia.

[Meireles] About a month ago, parliament was suspended and a state of emergency was declared. When will normality be restored?

[Shevardnadze] Georgia is in a state of war, and it is therefore difficult to talk about normality now, but as soon as the war ends we will do our utmost to restore it.

[Meireles] Including new elections?

[Shevardnadze] No decision has so far been taken on this. I have nothing against new elections, but I do not know whether it would be useful with respect to the crisis. First of all, the war must be ended. That is our priority.

[Meireles] Do you feel strong enough to lead that battle?

[Shevardnadze] I am prepared to resign at any time, but I do not believe that the Georgian population think that should be my stance for the present.

Ioseliani Asks Zugdidi Citizens to Surrender Leaders

LD2810164693 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1400 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Jaba Ioseliani, the head of the interim committee for emergency situations, who is in western Georgia, has appealed to the illegal armed units and the population of Zugdidi to stop the senseless confrontation. Here is a recording of his address.

[Begin recording] [Ioseliani] I made a statement the day before yesterday and now I am again saying that we are facing a disastrous tragedy. I mean the problem of Zugdidi. Government troops have approached it and Zugdidi will soon be surrounded. I am saying it openly because there is no military secret in this.

The disposition of our troops is very bad. Bad might mean fair in the present situation. These are the men who were shot in their backs; these are the people who had to walk round Svaneti instead of coming here by road; these are the people who fought in Abkhazia for 18

months without any support from here; these are the people who were robbed, who were stripped of their weapons, who were robbed of their food. It will be very difficult to stop them. [passage omitted]

There is only one way out. Zugdidi inhabitants should hand over their leaders, those criminals Zviad Gamsakhurdia, Loti Kobalia and others whom they better know to be leaders. We will then try not to let the army enter Zugdidi.

[Announcer] To avoid robbery?

[Ioseliani] If it were only robbery. All kinds of misfortune can happen there. Who cares about robbery? Therefore, it is necessary that the inhabitants of Zugdidi be sensible, because they are also to blame. They submitted themselves to several bandits. [passage omitted] They must lay down their weapons, they must come out with their weapons and with white banners, one by one or in groups, however they prefer, and we will pardon them. I give you a gentleman's word that no purges will be executed against them now or in future.

But this does not concern their leaders. The leaders should be handed over to us by Zugdidi inhabitants themselves, because they are guilty of dreadful crimes before Georgia. [passage omitted] They must be brought here. Otherwise, we will be honest before God, because they betrayed God. They made an alliance with Muslims and all riffraff. They insulted Iliya II and they insulted our religion. They killed sons of Georgia. They stood side by side with our enemies. And they committed horrors beyond imagination. [passage omitted] God tells us not to reconcile ourselves with Satan. I have said that we can reconcile with anyone, but we cannot seek reconciliation with Satan. And we will not do that. [end recording]

Gamsakhurdia Will Not Flee Zugdidi

LD2810191093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1715 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The [Georgian head of state's] press service also said that the Georgian command called again on Gamsakhurdia's men to cease resistance and lay down arms in order to avoid new civilian casualties.

The rebels are bracing themselves for a decisive battle in the outskirts of Zugdidi. Fortifications are being built, men are given weapons and forcibly sent to the front line.

They are also preparing for a guerilla war. The Georgian Government intelligence reports that bases are deployed in the forests of Western Georgia where munition, weapons, food and warm clothing are stashed.

The former president himself remains optimistic and is staying in Zugdidi. His wife Manana told Interfax Thursday that he had no intention of fleeing.

She emphasized that "he is confident of a victory because he knows what he wants."

Mrs. Gamsakhurdia said that she had talked with her husband four days ago and he was "in high spirits. I am sure that his mood has not changed, for I know him to be a very courageous man."

She attributed what she called temporary setbacks suffered by troops loyal to the ex-president to help from Russian army units in the hostilities.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: From the outset of the large-scale offensive against Gamsakhurdia loyalists, Russian military authorities flatly denied all reports of their involvement on any side. The command of the Russian Army Group in Transcaucasia has emphasized that the Russian army observed strict neutrality.

Government Spokesman Assails Caucasian 'Parliament' Session

LD2810211793 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1810 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Despite temporary difficulties, Georgia will not leave unanswered any single violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity, government spokesman Zaza Kandelaki said. He was commenting on the results of a session by the parliament of the Confederation of Caucasian Peoples (CCP), ending in Sukhumi on Wednesday [27 October].

Kandelaki described the forum as a new case of blatant interference in Georgia's internal affairs by the forces who are trying to exacerbate the already tragic Georgian-Abkhaz relations.

Delegates of five North Caucasian republics—North Ossetia, Ingushetia, Karachajev-Cherkessia, Dagestan and Kabardino-Balkaria—spelt out support for economic aid to Abkhazia.

The CCP also decided to hold a meeting in Tskhinval, the capital of the self-styled republic of South Ossetia which is part of Georgia, in the run up to its congress in November.

Press Center Statement on Abkhaz, Caucasian Mercenaries

LD2810211393 Tbilisi First Program Television
Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Text] Here is a statement by the head of state's press center.

According to information obtained from prisoners belonging to the illegal military formations loyal to the former president and other reliable sources, 10 buses full of Abkhaz and North Caucasian mercenaries have entered the town of Zugdidi.

We are dealing with the misery of Gamsakhurdia's regime that, once again, unveils the deals and connections between Gamsakhurdia and Ardzinba. The mercenaries blatantly invaded the Samegrelo region. This is a pure intervention in Georgia by them, but the Georgian people will make the extremists and separatists answer for it.

Abkhazia Denies Nationals, Caucasians Helping Gamsakhurdia

LD2910121293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in
Russian 1144 GMT 29 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, 29 Oct—The press service of the plenipotentiary representative of the Republic of Abkhazia in the Russian Federation today denied a number of media reports, to the effect that supporters of Former Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia is being helped by reinforcements of "North Caucasus and Abkhazian combatants." Citing the Abkhazian Defense Ministry and the Headquarters of the Confederation of Caucasian Peoples (CCP), the press service declares that "not one of the combatants in the Abkhazian Armed Forces or the CCP is taking part in combat operations in western Georgia."

Kavsadze Derides Abkhaz Leader's Promises

LD2810200793 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in
Georgian 1400 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Statement by Aleksandre Kavsadze, personal envoy to Georgian chief of state, chairman of the committee for human rights and interethnic relations; place and date issued not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Russian television's recent report about the alleged readiness of the Abkhaz government to facilitate the return of refugees is causing alarm, surprise, and anger among all Georgian citizens. The separatists who forcibly drove away more than 240,000 Georgians, destroyed Sukhumi, and after barbarous shelling forced the Russians, Armenians, Greeks, and other nationalities to flee the town, are insolently saying that they will facilitate the return of refugees.

Ardzinba is also promising that they will in the future consider the return of the Georgians as well, but only of those who did not take up arms.

In the meantime, the ethnic cleansing of the remaining Georgians in Abkhazia continues. The sick, the elderly, women, and children are either being killed or driven away from Abkhazia. There are dozens of such people.

Ardzinba, who impudently lied to the public about alleged infringements of the Abkhaz people's human rights, carried out an unprecedented genocide of the Georgian population in Abkhazia in front of the whole world.

He is still hoping that the remaining political adventurers from the Khasbulatov-Rutskoy gang will support them openly or secretly. He is hoping that with their help he will manage to manipulate public opinion, but sooner or later light will be shed upon everything.

We appeal to the representatives of the mass media not to be enticed by Ardzinba's provocations, but to remain balanced in assessing the conflict in Abkhazia in order to facilitate a peaceful settlement of the Abkhaz conflict.

**Former Local Communist Leader Appointed
Abkhaz Premier**

*MK2910101093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in
Russian 29 Oct 93 p 3*

[Unattributed report in the "NEGA reports" column
under "Georgia" rubric]

[Text] It has been announced in Tbilisi that Zurab Erkvaniya has been appointed chairman of the Abkhazian Council of Ministers, which is temporarily functioning in Tbilisi.

He was confirmed in this post at a session of the Georgian Republic's Cabinet of Ministers. Z. Erkvaniya was first secretary in the Khobs Rayon committee of the Georgian Communist Party; in 1989 through 1991 he was first secretary of the Sukhumi city committee of the Georgian Communist Party. He has spent the last year and a half in Tbilisi, working in private business.

The main question on the agenda of the Abkhazian Council of Ministers is to provide accommodation and material aid to the refugees and also assess the performance of the coordinating center of the Refugees Committee created under the Council of Ministers of the Abkhaz Republic.

Estonia**Legislators May Revise Arms Deal With Israel***WS2810152893 Tallinn BNS in English 1400 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tallinn, Oct 27, BNS—The parliament's Defense Commission asked Estonian lawmakers to revise a weapons deal negotiated with Israel.

The parliament is expected to make its decision Thursday [28 October].

Prime Minister Mart Laar said the Cabinet has always been ready to bring the agreement before the parliament and has not concealed it.

"At the time (Estonia finished the deal) we turned to the Defense Commission, which concluded that the agreement didn't require ratification in the parliament," Laar said. "Now the commission has changed its mind."

But, he said, "Should the parliament insist that the deal be submitted for discussion, we shall do it." Laar claims Estonia has not raised a loan to purchase the arms, nor is the deal an inter-state agreement.

"It is a purchase contract whose discussion in the parliament would create a precedent," the prime minister said. "In this case, the parliament should approve all other agreements involving similar sums."

Discussion of the deal in the parliament may, however, even be of use, he said, since it would provide answers to the opposition's numerous accusations.

The opposition has repeatedly claimed that the deal was not advantageous to Estonia, and that notes have been issued to purchase the arms from Israel.

Laar Expresses Concern*LD2910112693 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1000 GMT 29 Oct 93*

[Text] The government learned yesterday that the \$50 million arms deal concluded with the Israeli TAAS firm on 7 January must indeed be discussed in the Riigikogu so as to ease tensions, so to speak. This is what Prime Minister Mart Laar told the Baltic News Service.

Yesterday, parliament rejected a motion to discuss the arms deal, with 40 votes in favor, eight against, and five abstentions; 51 votes were required to carry the motion.

Laar said that he had no idea under which provision the Riigikogu would be able to ratify the contract. If the contract is presented to the Riigikogu the government demands that a firm procedure be drafted by the state defense commission for the debate. The debate must be closed because it concerns Estonia's security.

The prime minister stated that we are not talking of a credit or a foreign agreement, but of a sell-and-buy

contract. The monies required for payment for the arms have been included in the draft 1994 state budget.

Commenting on accusations from the opposition, Laar noted that it is not clear to him how some politicians can damage Estonia's reputation and diminish the country's defense capacity in their desire for political profits. As is known, Riigikogu member Juri Toomepuu sent a letter to Mart Laar on 25 October demanding that he be compensated for economic and moral damages. Toomepuu demands 10 million kroons as compensation. Toomepuu has also taken the matter to Tallinn City Court.

According to the prime minister, certain politicians are prepared to seriously endanger Estonia's state defense in the name of personal, economic, or political ambitions. In Laar's opinion, such activity may even be taking on some qualities of treason. It also seems to him that with some politicians it is no longer a political but a medical problem, with all this hullabaloo surrounding the arms deal.

The prime minister expressed his dismay over the fact that a list of the arms purchased from Israel, with prices, was published in the EESTI EKSPRESS. He said that we do not in fact have a law on state secrets but the person who delivered the list of weapons and prices to the EESTI EKSPRESS should be made accountable.

Parliament Amends Law Regulating Foreign Relations*LD2810195493 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1600 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] The Riigikogu today readopted the law on foreign relations, with 54 votes in favor and two abstentions. The law was first adopted on 2 June, but on 21 June President Lennart Meri refused to promulgate it.

In the president's opinion, the law was not in line with the Constitution, according to which the generally accepted principles and standards of international law form an inalienable part of the Estonian legal system.

The readopted law on foreign relations defines the rights of the president, the Riigikogu, the government and the Foreign Ministry in foreign relations, as well as the procedure for concluding agreements, among other things. According to the law, the president will represent Estonia as head of state on the international arena and appoint diplomatic representatives nominated by the government.

The law does not include a clause instructing the president to coordinate his activity with the government, even though the clause was included in the government's bill presented to the Riigikogu in the spring.

Indrek Tarand Appointed New Chief to Laar

WS2910115993 Tallinn BNS in English 1656 GMT
28 Oct 93

[Text] Tallinn, Oct 28, BNS—Indrek Tarand, formerly the government's special representative in Narva, was appointed as chief aide to Prime Minister Mart Laar.

Tarand replaces Tiit Pruuli, who resigned for health reasons Monday [25 October].

The new chief aide, like his predecessor Pruuli and Laar himself, is closely connected with the Estonian Students Society. The same academic organization forms a common link for a number of other leading government officials, including Defense Minister Juri Luik.

Parliamentary Commission Chairman Resigns

WS2810152693 Tallinn BNS in English 1716 GMT
27 Oct 93

[Text] Tallinn, Oct 27, BNS—Jaanus Raidal, the chairman of the parliament's Rural Life and Regional Policies Commission, resigned Wednesday [27 October] in protest of the parliament's decision Tuesday to rename his commission the Rural Life and Agriculture Commission.

Raidal also suspended his membership in the Estonian National Independence Party (ENIP) faction and said he is considering leaving the "disintegrating coalition."

"The parliament's ruling means, in essence, that it abandoned an accelerated decentralization program," Raidal told BNS. "There no longer exists a commission to directly handle the questions that are of the utmost importance for Estonia: promoting self-government and regulating the relations between the state and the local governments."

Raidal predicted the ruling will lead the state to a dead end and a collapse that may last until new parliamentary elections.

Raidal also suspended his participation in the ENIP faction since it backed the ruling on changing the commission's functions. "In my opinion, the party relinquished the policy for speedy democratization," he said.

The parliament currently has no standard for working out legislation, Raidal claimed. He said he plans to enter active politics in the near future to help restore trust between the state and the people.

Lithuania

Slezevicius Comments on Ties With Russia

LD2810174293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1637 GMT 28 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladas Burbulis]

[Text] Vilnius October 28 TASS—"It is high time to put an end to 'allergy' with respect to cooperation between Lithuania and Russia," the Baltic Republic's Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius told a news conference on Thursday [28 October]. According to him, certain political parties and movements "have been intimidating the Lithuanian public with 'the Russian card' while a normal, respectful and mutually acceptable dialogue with Russia is going ahead."

"I look forward to a meeting with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin with an aim to regulate trade and economic relations and other problems," Slezevicius said. "I understand quite well that the Russian premier has a very tense timetable. However, I believe we will manage to find time for this meeting," the Lithuanian prime minister stressed.

Army Concentration in Kaliningrad 'Abnormal'

PM2810152393 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in
Russian 28 Oct 93 p 3

[Valeriy Gromak report under the "From Our News Desk" rubric: "Now Russian Troops in Kalingrad Are a Nuisance for Germany Too"]

[Text] German President R. von Weizsaecker has paid an official visit to Lithuania. At the end of the visit he held a joint press conference with Lithuanian President A. Brazauskas.

The latter described the sizeable concentration of Russian Armed Forces in Kaliningrad as "abnormal" and expressed the view that, in the process of demilitarization, this Russian enclave should also become a trade and economic zone. The German president also views the concentration of Russian troops in Kalingrad Oblast as "without prospects," and supports Brazauskas' opinion on the need to transform it into a center of trade for the countries of the region. But, in the words of the federal president, Russia should be the initiator of this process.

Swedish Military Aid Delivered to Defense Ministry

LD2810183493 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in
Lithuanian 1500 GMT 28 Oct 93

[Summary] Two transport vessels of the Swedish Royal Navy arrived today in Klaipeda. They brought a cargo of technical assistance of the Swedish Defense Ministry for the Lithuanian National Defense Ministry.

This cargo includes 40 field kitchens, 10,000 uniforms for servicemen of the Voluntary National Defense service, four sets of fire-fighting equipment, 14 trucks, 13 armored vehicles, medical stations and their equipment, and 200 instruments to measure radioactivity.

IMF Satisfied With Monetary Policy

*LD2910105493 Vilnius International Service in
Lithuanian 2200 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Lithuania is one of the few states whose cooperation with the International Monetary Fund is excellent, stated Peter Cornelius, newly appointed IMF representative to Lithuania. In his opinion, Lithuania's successful monetary policy has helped to curb inflation which recently went up only due to seasonal increases in prices.

The IMF official declined to comment on the removal of Romualdas Visokavicius, chairman of the Bank of Lithuania, from his post. However, he observed that the Fund advocates monetary policies carried out with Visokavicius in office. In the opinion of Peter Cornelius, all the achievements of the last few months will be lost if, following the removal of the central bank chairman, Lithuania abandons its present monetary policy.

The new IMF representative to Lithuania noticed that the rate of the litas is stable and that people rely on it more.

Prime Minister Details 1994 Projected Budget Allocations

*LD2910102593 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International
Service in Lithuanian 2200 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] There will be no currency emission in Lithuania in 1994. This was stated by Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius when he was submitting a draft budget for next year to the Seimas on Thursday [28 October].

The greatest part of next year's state budget will be earmarked to the social and cultural sectors. The budget is expected to total 3.8 billion litas. The projected budget deficit is targeted at just higher than 0.5 percent. Appropriations for the governing of the state, law and order, and law enforcement structures will make up 727 million litas. The national defense system will be allocated about 122 million litas, i.e. roughly five percent of the budget. The state budget also provides for large subsidies to cover people's heating and gas bills, as well as to pay social allowances.